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THE TIMES

No. 65,405 MONDAY OCTOBER 23 1995

Tory plan to take over all schools

By Philip Webster and David Craxton

SCHOOL funding could be taken away from local councils and handed to Whitehall under a radical plan being considered by the Prime Minister.

Such a move would allow John Major to achieve a stroke of his ambition of getting all 25,000 schools in the country to opt out of local authority control and become self-governing. It would also bring the greatest upheaval in local government since Balfour, depriving councils of their biggest single responsibility and raising questions about the future of other local services, such as social services and policing.

Education authorities were set up by the Conservatives under the Balfour Education Act of 1902 to inspect and maintain schools

and to ensure that places were planned for all children. Removing this responsibility, which accounts for 40 per cent of council spending, has been considered by Conservative governments in the past but the idea has always been rejected for fear of a backlash over the centralisation of local government. Now, after the ending of council control over polytechnics and colleges, the schools are back on the agenda.

According to government sources, the idea is one of the options to be considered by the Cabinet's home and social affairs committee as it considers how to follow up Mr Major's pledge. "It would be bold; it would be daring, but it could be the way to get us to the goal the Prime Minister has signposted." The plan is, however, certain to be opposed by some Cabinet ministers, including John Gummer.

So far, 1,072 schools have voted for direct funding by the Department of Education and although measures have been announced recently to make opting out more attractive, there appears little likelihood of an upsurge. At the present rate, it would take more than 100 years for all schools to become grant-maintained.

A senior Cabinet source revealed that although the emphasis now was on trying to achieve more opt-out schools through voluntary means, a more revolutionary approach might soon be needed.

Any change is unlikely before the next election, but it is being seriously pressed by ministers close to the Prime Minister for inclusion in the Tory election manifesto. Those supporting the change accept that the constitutional significance would be so great that it would be best put forward as an

election commitment. In that case, it would be accompanied by a massive campaign to persuade parents and governors that their involvement in schools would be enhanced.

Under the plan, the Government's revenue support grant to councils would be heavily reduced and the money earmarked for education would instead go directly to schools through the Funding Agency for Schools.

In their book *Too Close To Call* Sarah Hogg and Jonathan Hill, the Prime Minister's leading advisers during most of his premiership, recall that by the end of 1990, many ministers were exasperated with local government. With the nationalisation of local business rates, local councils were then responsible for raising only about a quarter of what they spent. "More and more Tory MPs thought the logical solution was

for central government to take over completely," they wrote. Some ministers wanted to transfer all education to central government. At that time Mr Major was not convinced. Now, he may be ready to move.

In his interview with *The Times* in August, he said his objective was that all publicly funded schools should be run as free self-governing schools, and in a speech in Birmingham last month, he reiterated his campaign to achieve "full self-government" for all state schools.

Experts are divided on whether grant-maintained status offers a better education. Although examination results are higher, so, too, are class sizes, according to a report to be published by the independent London Research Centre tomorrow. Outer London council schools have an average of 17.1

Continued on page 2, col 1

Bottomley calls for more care in lottery handouts

By Lin Jenkins and Arthur Leathley

VIRGINIA Bottomley will demand more careful distribution of National Lottery money following criticism from major charities over the award of £40 million to more than 600 obscure voluntary groups.

Charities claimed yesterday that the small bodies chosen for the handouts already receive funding for their work helping ethnic minorities, immigrants and the disadvantaged from the Home Office and local authorities.

The National Heritage Secretary will make clear to the heads of the distributing bodies next week that they have not yet struck "the right balance". "It is early days, but to say that we have got it absolutely right or that the distribution is perfect would be wrong and complacent. We are neither," said a National Heritage department source.

The big children's charities, and those involved in medical research and overseas aid, which have lost millions because of the lottery, claim ticket-buyers want them to benefit. A colleague of Mrs Bottomley said: "She believes this is the people's lottery, but the money is not going to the organisations that the people would choose."

However, Mrs Bottomley publicly defended the lottery yesterday, and warned the large charities to be watchful in view of the remuneration packages some of those running the larger ones receive.

Among the grants to be announced today is £7,000 for a Chinese women's group in Gloucestershire to fund an interpreter to help with such tasks as shopping. The Vietnamese Mental Health Project and an initiative in Glasgow to give advice to the parents of drug addicts will also benefit.

Talks called off, pages 10, 11

Winning numbers, page 22

Clinton tells UN to launch drugs purge

By Markin Elchick and Arthur Leathley

PRESIDENT CLINTON yesterday launched the fifth anniversary celebrations of the United Nations in New York by calling for a global offensive against terrorism, drugs, organised crime and the black market in nuclear, chemical and biological materials.

He pledged continued American support to the UN and promised to pay his country's \$1.3 billion (885 million) arrears. Mr Clinton insisted, however, that the UN control of funding must be tightened up.

Britain is owed about £50 million for its role in Bosnia. Last month Malcolm Rifkind, the Foreign Secretary, demanded that countries in arrears should pay interest charges on their debts. The Prime Minister is angered by the UN's failure to chase up debts to cover the £32 million daily cost of its peacekeeping mission in the Balkans.

Total arrears stand at \$2.4 billion, with 39 of the 185 member states failing to pay their dues last year. The American debt, by far the largest, is equivalent to the annual UN budget. Britain recently cleared its arrears.

Mr Clinton called on all nations to take a "no-sanctuary pledge" and to tell criminals that they have nowhere to run and nowhere to hide.

He told his Administration to identify the front companies and freeze the assets of the Cali cartel, the largest drug ring, and to threaten sanctions against any nation that tolerates money-laundering.

The US President's keynote speech was well received. President Yeltsin soured the harmony before his fifth summit with Mr Clinton today by declaring that Russia would send troops to help implement a Bosnian peace deal only if the international force was under UN control.

"It is inadmissible for a regional organisation [Nato] to make decisions concerning the mass use of force by bypassing the Security Council," he said.

The United States has tried to overcome the issue by suggesting that Russian forces should carry out support tasks such as mine-clearing and rebuilding bridges. Warren Christopher, the Secretary of State, said he saw little chance of Mr Clinton and Mr Yeltsin resolving this dispute, which is hardening Moscow's opposition to Nato's expansion eastward. The summit will be held at Hyde Park, President Roosevelt's estate on the Hudson River, which was chosen to evoke the Second World War alliance between the two countries. The present state of relations is better conveyed, however, by the fact that the two leaders will not end the meeting with their customary joint news conference.

Mr Clinton reiterated his pledge to send American troops to help to enforce a Bosnian peace settlement, but used the bulk of his speech to set new priorities for the UN in the post-Cold War world. He urged all nations to negotiate and endorse an "international declaration to promote the safety of the world's citizens" against terrorists, drug-traffickers, nuclear smugglers and criminals. He said such people "jeopardise the global trend towards peace and freedom, undermine fragile new democracies, sap the strength from developing countries and threaten our efforts to build a safer, more prosperous world". He referred to the recent terrorist attacks in Oklahoma City, Tokyo and Paris and insisted that no nation was immune.

Mr Clinton called for a "counter-terrorism pact... to shut down the great markets that outfit terrorists and criminals with firearms and false documents". He appealed for an international "anti-narcotics offensive" and a global network of centres giving national police forces access to the latest crime-fighting techniques and technologies. He also called for intensified efforts to prevent the spread of materials for weapons of mass destruction.

Mr Clinton, the only head of state permitted to speak for longer than five minutes, said the dreams of the UN's founders had yet to be fully realised, but the world body had proved itself "a force for good and a bulwark against evil".



President Clinton greets President Yeltsin, centre, and President Chirac at the United Nations anniversary meeting in New York yesterday

had to jettison outdated priorities, break up bureaucratic fiefdoms and do more with less money. John Major will reinforce this message today by demanding money owed to Britain for its peacekeeping role in Bosnia-Herzegovina and telling the UN that last

force was under UN control. "It is inadmissible for a regional organisation [Nato] to make decisions concerning the mass use of force by bypassing the Security Council," he said.

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Talks called off, pages 10, 11

Winning numbers, page 22



A chance to meet Hawking

Stephen Hawking, the author of *A Brief History of Time*, will give The Waterstones lecture, sponsored by The Times and Icon, at the Albert Hall next month. His title will be *Does God Throw Dice in Black Holes?* Page 5

Another Einstein, page 17

Germans consider 'danger Pill' ban

By Catherine Milton and Michael Kallenbach

GOVERNMENT medical experts received support for their health warning about some brands of the contraceptive pill last night with the announcement that a ban is being considered in Germany.

Members of the Government's Committee on Safety of Medicines (CSM) also responded angrily to claims that the warning that seven types of oral contraceptive carry a higher than expected risk of thrombosis had been part of a cost-cutting drive.

The Berlin-based Federal Institute for Pharmaceutical and Medical Products issued a warning affecting up to a million German women who take the Pill, based on research conducted at the World Health Organisation.

Organon, the manufacturer of two of the "blacklisted" Pills, criticised the Berlin Institute for causing "unbelievable and unnecessary anxiety among the firm's users". Another company, Schering, based in Berlin, is opening an emergency hotline for the public today.

German drugs companies have been asked by the Government to give their reaction to the WHO study tomorrow, that will give them an opportunity to try to disprove some of the findings.

Reports yesterday that the warning issued in Britain was part of an attempt to cut costs were rejected as "unutterable claptrap" by Professor Howard Jacobs, of the University College and Middlesex School of Medicine, London, who is a member of the CSM. He added: "It is nonsensical, mean-minded speculation from ignorant pigs. The cost of birth control pills was never mentioned once at the meetings where these things were discussed."

Professor Michael Rawlins, of Newcastle University's department of pharmacology, who is chairman of the CSM, said: "Somebody does not understand the terms of reference in which the law requires us to act. We are specifically required to consider only quality, safety and efficacy. We never, ever, on any consideration, ever take into account cost."

Times letter by escaper stirs jail row

By Richard Ford

HOME CORRESPONDENT

ONE of the three dangerous men who escaped from Parkhurst jail accuses "backstabbing" staff in the prison service of incompetence and not caring about their work.

In a letter to *The Times* today from his top-security prison, Matthew Williams says the prison service culture is dominated by avoiding blame for escapes, suicides, and poor education. "As long as the papers don't get hold of it, it is acceptable," Williams, 26, of Birkenhead, says.

His letter appears as a former Tory prisons minister accused Michael Howard of making a "superficial judgement" on the Learmont report and being wrong to dismiss Derek Lewis as Prison Service Director-General. Mr Lewis welcomed his onslaught against the Home Secretary by warning that the prison population in England and Wales could double to

Continued on page 2, col 5

Letters, page 19

Leading article, page 19

Kingsley Amis dies after fall on stairs

By Lin Jenkins and Helen Johnstone

SIR KINGSLEY AMIS, the irascible grand old man of English letters, died yesterday in St Pancras Hospital, London. He was 73.

He had been readmitted to hospital within weeks of being discharged from University College Hospital last month after crushing two vertebrae in a fall down the stairs of the house in Swansea where he spent each August with friends while his customary London haunt, the Garrick Club, was closed.

Bookshops anticipated an increase in sales and Dillons in central London was prompt to mark his death, changing its window display to include the gamut of his works from the first *Lucky Jim*, to the last, *The Biographer's Moustache*, published in August.

Tributes to the author, who won the Booker Prize for *The Old Devils* in 1986, covered a broad range of opinion in his death as they had in his life. Some recalled him as a comic genius, others as one of the few great prose stylists to have emerged since the war; others as a bad tempered misogynist.

Sir Peregrine Worsthorne, the former editor of *The Sunday Telegraph*, who crossed swords with Sir Kingsley on several memorable occasions, said: "I am afraid he will be remembered more for his hate than his love, and more as a bit of a monster than as a great writer. The

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Amis: irascible genius



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THIS WEEK IN THE TIMES

SATURDAY

HALF-PRICE HOTEL BREAKS

24 page guide to cut-price short breaks at more than 300 hotels in the British Isles. See page 39

PLUS: Libby Purves, Nigella Lawson, *Body and Mind*, Law and play to win £50,000 with Interactive Football

FASHION

Iain R Webb on the best of British Fashion

PLUS: Simon Jenkins, Alan Coren, John Diamond on Media, and five multi-media PC's to be won in *Interface*, the weekly guide to computers

FILMS

Nicole Kidman in *To Die For*, and other new films of the week

PLUS: William Rees-Mogg, Janet Daley, John Bryant on Sport, Books and Travel News

POP

Caitlin Moran and David Sinclair on modern music and musicians

PLUS: Bernard Levin, Valerie Grove, Clement Freud and Education

WEEKEND

Create a work of art for Coca-Cola and win £5,000 and a trip to the centennial Olympic games

PLUS: Magazine travel, books, property and shopping
1015: the magazine for young Times readers
Car 95: motoring news and information
Vision: the 7-day TV and radio guide



TRADE MARK

EVERY DAY THIS WEEK A HOLIDAY FOR TWO TO BE WON

Britain leads move to curb Euro Court

BY ARTHUR LEATHLEY, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

BRITAIN will today publish far-reaching proposals to stop the European Court of Justice making judgments costing billions of pounds.

Days after the court infuriated ministers by forcing Britain to change its laws on prescription charges, David Davis, the Minister for Europe, will present a paper to a European Union meeting in Brussels, demanding reduced legal influence over laws of member states. Britain wants to limit the court's power to force member states to pay retrospective damages. Ministers reacted angrily last week when the court forced Britain to allow men to receive free prescriptions at the same age as women. The ruling threatened to cost up to £500million if the Government had to reimburse all men between 60 and 64. Ministers want a reprieve, limiting the pay-back period to only three months, in line with UK health legislation.

Although officials insist that the prescription judgment will not be mentioned in Mr Davis' submission, the court's latest decision has re-ignited Eurosceptic anger over its powers to alter domestic laws.

Mr Davis will also call for EU colleagues to support

proposals challenging the court's right to impose fines on countries failing to obey European directives, and he will press for greater leniency when a member state has failed inadvertently to follow a directive. A Foreign Office official said: "There should be some allowance for governments who implement a law in good faith."

European Court fines of £2million and £1.4million imposed on Italy and Spain respectively for breaking milk quota rules have shocked member states.

Britain will also press for the setting up of a statute of limitation to restrict the court's decision to recent transgressions, rather than being able to call governments to account for failings of more than a decade ago.

Mr Davis will deliver his paper to the two-day meeting of the so-called "reflection group" of EU representatives, who will draft suggested areas for discussion at next year's intergovernmental conference on Europe's future.

The Netherlands, Germany and Portugal are understood to be among those likely to back Britain. Eurosceptics claim the court's decisions have cost British taxpayers up to £2 billion in recent years.

Walters v Clarke is first of high-profile clashes
Goldsmith offers £20m for anti-Europe election fight

BY ALICE THOMSON, POLITICAL REPORTER

THE Euro-sceptic financier Sir James Goldsmith is prepared to spend at least £20 million on fighting the Government at the next general election and has enlisted a series of celebrities to stand against Tory MPs for his Referendum Party.

Sir Alan Walters, Baroness Thatcher's former economics adviser, was the first high-profile name to announce that he would be standing for the party, which is demanding a referendum on constitutional changes caused by European integration. Sir Alan, who played a leading part in the resignation of Nigel Lawson six years ago, is preparing to take on another Chancellor by standing against Kenneth Clarke in his Rushcliffe constituency in Nottinghamshire.

Sir James, who has an estimated wealth of £700 million, and spends most of his time in France, is also prepared to stand in a high-profile constituency, such as Huntingdon, the seat of the Prime Minister.

Yesterday Sir James, who is an MEP in France, made it clear that his challenge was serious and that he would match the other political parties pound for pound in a general election. He will need to underwrite the £500 deposit



Sir Alan Walters, left, is the first candidate to stand for Sir James Goldsmith's Referendum Party

and campaigning costs of candidates and employ staff at the party's offices in Buckingham Gate, central London.

He is convinced that, with names like Sir Alan's, he will have a serious impact. "There are 14 Tory seats where the majority is less than 1.3 per cent and we could tip the balance," a spokesman said.

Sir Alan became an adviser in 1970 to Sir Edward Heath before resigning over what he believed to be lax monetary policy. He later joined Lady Thatcher's team and it was his interference in European financial policy that helped to cause the resignation of Lord Lawson of Blaby. He now aims to "open a few seams"

over Mr Clarke's policy on Europe. The Chancellor favours a single European currency and is opposed to a referendum on Europe.

Conservative Central Office is increasingly worried about the threat. "Just a 1 per cent swing could make a difference in marginal constituencies," a staff member said. "They will be taking away our votes and we have enough problem with Labour without this as well."

Jerry Hayes, MP for Harlow, is one Tory whose seat could be affected. He said: "All that will happen is that these right-wing lunatic Eurosceptics will lose our vote and let a group of equally lunatic left-wingers in who are far

more pro-European than us. It doesn't make sense."

However, Mr Clarke, who has a majority of 19,766, shrugged off the move yesterday morning. Speaking on the BBC's *Breakfast with Frost*, he said he thought it was bizarre for a millionaire who lived in Paris and Mexico to be interfering in British politics. He added that it might bring "some of these right-wing gurus like Sir Alan Walters a little nearer to the real world".

Mr Clarke also rejected pressure yesterday for the Conservative Party to move further to the right. He said that the battle at the next election would be fought over hard-core Tory policies and the soft-centre Labour proposals. "Free-market economics, social reform — that is the Conservative centre and that is the ground which I believe we should occupy."

His comments came on the eve of a campaign by right-wingers to oust senior figures from the executive of the 1922 Committee. Sir George Gardiner, chairman of the right-wing 92 Group, has written to all group members making clear that it is time for sweeping changes to the executive, which channels backbench opinion to ministers. At least eight of the 18 members of the executive have announced that they will step down as MPs at the next election.

Trimble says Spring has gone soft on IRA

David Trimble will use his meeting with Dick Spring today, the first since his election as Ulster Unionist leader, to accuse Ireland's Deputy Prime Minister of softening his position on the decommissioning of IRA arms. Amid fears among Ulster Unionists that Britain is preparing to follow Dublin, Mr Trimble said he would spell out his party's anger to Mr Spring when they meet in Belfast.

Mr Trimble claimed that in 1993 Mr Spring said the IRA would have to lay down its arms to give the permanence of a ceasefire, while recently he had attacked Britain for making decommissioning a precondition to all-party talks.

Nationalists reacted angrily to news yesterday that The Parachute Regiment, which has been involved in some of the most contentious incidents during the Troubles, is scheduled to return to the Province next year.

Youth held over killing

A youth of 17 was being questioned yesterday after the found and gagged body of a man was found in a Leicestershire wood. John Dawson, 56, a quantity surveyor was found in John Lee's Wood, a popular tourist spot in Markfield, Mr Dawson, who was married with three daughters, had been missing from his home in Carlton, Nottingham, since last Wednesday. A post mortem examination showed that he had been strangled and had probably been dead for three days.

Heads' bonuses attacked

Head teachers were accused yesterday of "having their snouts in the trough" after it was disclosed that one in three had received merit payments compared with fewer than 1 per cent of classroom teachers. Nigel De Gruchy, general secretary of the NASUWT union, told a Labour Party education conference that discretionary pay awards were "bordering on corruption" and should be scrapped. Extra pay was awarded to 32 per cent of head teachers and 29 per cent of deputies in 1993-94 but only 0.3 per cent of teachers.

Pilot critical after crash

A pilot was in a critical condition last night after his home-made aircraft crashed shortly after take-off. Pete Tanulak, from Myddle, Shropshire, suffered severe head and leg injuries when his single-engine kit plane came down near Weston Lullingfields, Shropshire. Mr Tanulak, a single man who is in his 30s and belongs to a local flying club, was trapped in the wreckage for 30 minutes before firecrews cut him free. A spokesman for West Mercia police said it was not yet clear why the aircraft had crashed.

Woman pulled from car

An 18-year-old woman was dragged from a car at traffic lights and subjected to a two-hour sex ordeal early yesterday. Police said the woman had earlier been pestered by three men at a party in Wembley, north London, and when she left with two male friends the men followed her and taken to a house in Wembley where she was assaulted. One of the men then drove her to a service station where she was dropped off.

Councils face losing schools

Continued from page 1

pupils per teacher compared with 26.3 in GM schools. While some will see the exam results as performing better, the report points out that local authority schools have twice as many children with special educational needs and more poorer children — which will fuel fears that GM schools are selecting brighter, better-off pupils.

Mark Oakes of the Association of County Councils said yesterday that making all schools self-governing would inevitably raise questions about the future of other local services.

"Education is the biggest local authority budget and the face of local government would have to change quite radically if all schools became grant-maintained. The question would be 'why bother

with local government for all the other services?"

But Sir Robert Balchin, chairman of the Grant-Maintained Schools Foundation, saw simple self-interest in authorities wanting to preserve their status. "A lot of local education authority jobs would be lost and that is what it is all about. We are talking about a choice between local authority bureaucrats and the children's education."

Confined from page 1

100,000 if Mr Howard's proposals for tougher sentences are implemented. The prison bill would rise from £6.6 billion a year to an estimated £3.1 billion year, he said.

Williams, a Category A prisoner who was ordered to be detained for life after admitting 11 charges, including arson and conspiracy to cause explosions, wrote his letter from his cell in Frankland

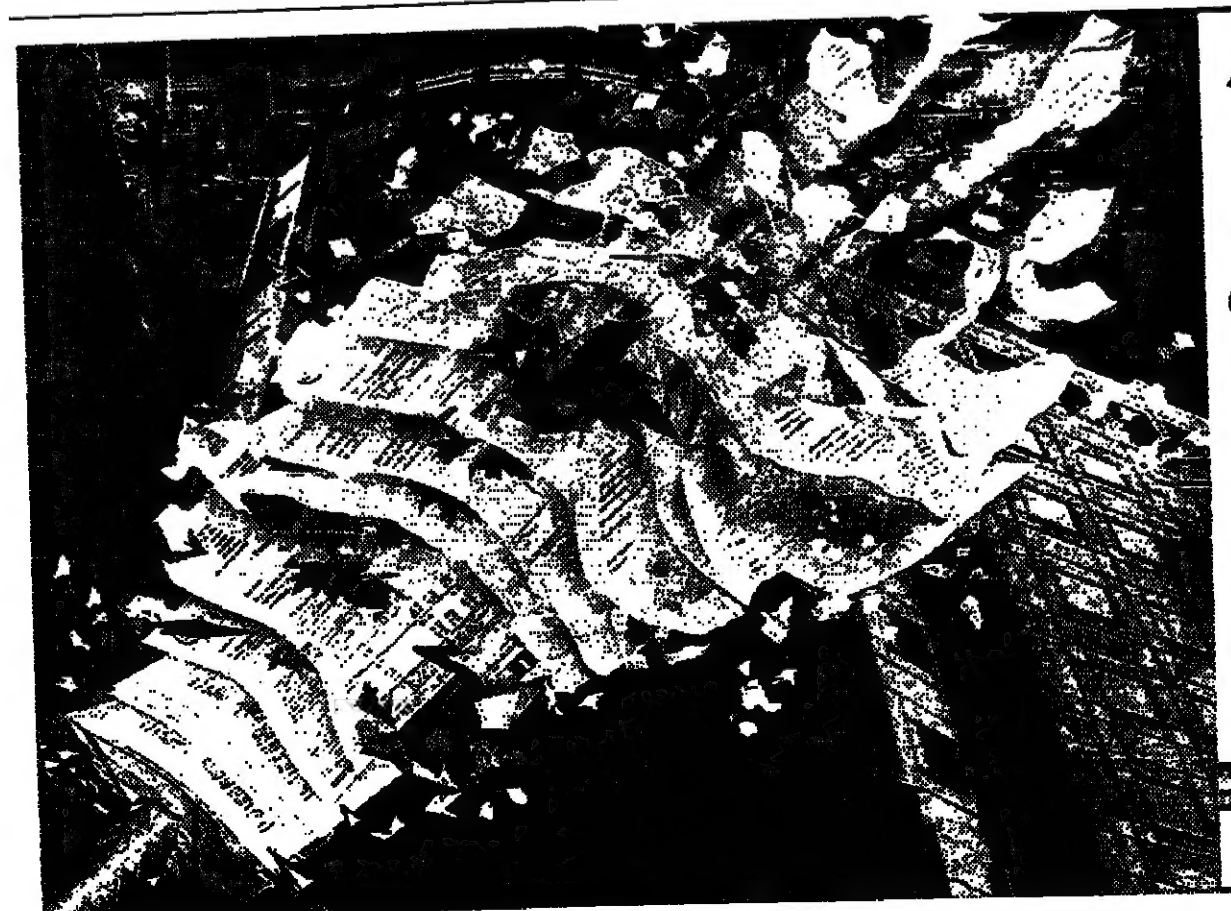
Escaper's letter fuels jail row

prison near Durham. His escape from Parkhurst triggered the report which led to the sacking of Mr Lewis.

The fact that Williams has been able to write to *The Times* is likely to anger Home Office ministers. As a prisoner with an escape record, his mail should be read by prison staff.

Sir Peter Lloyd, the former prisons minister, became the first Conservative MP to criticise Mr Howard for sacking Mr Lewis. Sir Peter, MP for Farnham, said: "I do think the Home Secretary should have backed him, not sacked him. I think the Home Secretary thought that action needed to be taken. He took a superficial judgment on the report and it was a judgment I think was mistaken."

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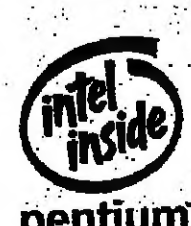
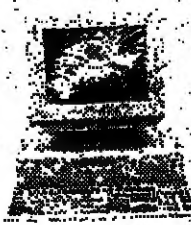


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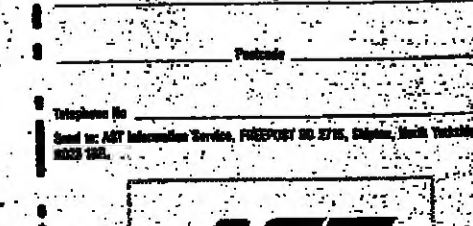
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Irascible Amis made many enemies but false culture was his true target

Bibulous neurotic who battled with the Establishment

BY DEWENT MAY

KINGSLEY AMIS will be remembered as one of the funniest and most provocative of post-war British novelists. He achieved instant fame and popularity in 1954 at the age of 32 with his novel *Lucky Jim*, but the book also made him many enemies, since it was taken to be an attack on English culture.

But Amis always claimed that all he had wanted to do was write a comedy, and in fact his later books shows him to be a pugnacious defender of good fiction and poetry. False culture was his true target.

Amis was born in South London in 1922. His father was a clerk with Colman's mustard. Amis was innately proud of his lower middle-class roots and was upset when his City of London school was evacuated to Marlborough in 1939.

He served in the Royal Signals during the war and after that his Oxford years were embittered by his suspicion that real culture belonged to a social elite from which he was excluded.

For this belief, Amis and some of his contemporaries publicly attacked "filthy" Jane Austen, "stupid" Robert Browning and "shrill" Charles Dickens. His social grudges intensified as a junior lecturer at Swansea and even after his fellowship at Peterhouse, Cambridge, in



Amis in 1968: quick to denounce others

1961 he always felt awkward among the highbrow dons. Amis retaliated with what was described as "drunken boorishness". Once he turned up at a formal reception in drag, an act fuelling suspicion, which he fervently denied, that he was homosexual.

He developed from a clamorous communist undergraduate, across the spectrum to become a growing Tory die-hard, or as one commentator put it from being an angry young man to an angry old man. He was never slow to denounce others as fools and bores and his resentment of almost anyone in authority

remained unchanged throughout his life.

But behind all that there lay a tremulous neurotic who, in adolescence was subject to inexplicable fits of terror. Even as an adult he could not bear to be left alone at night, travel alone in a train or fly in an aircraft. He suffered from hallucinations and uncontrollable twitches and undertook psychiatric treatment, seemingly to little avail. However, he possessed a prodigious appetite for work, always fiercely determined to produce his daily 500 words once he sat down at a typewriter.

When his eighteenth novel, *The Old Devils*, won the Booker Prize in 1986, Amis characteristically went to the prize-winning dinner in a black tie and brown brogues, but one of the most memorable literary photographs ever taken shows his eyes popping out of his head with astonishment and delight at the moment he was announced as winner.

In recent years he cultivated a public persona as an aggressive and bibulous man of letters. He would compose scabrous limericks with his friends in the Garrick Club, but sitting in his large chair in the bar there he was always ready to talk and talk very well, about poetry. In the gobbling turkey he latterly pretended to be, there was always a skylark still signalling to be let out.

Tributes to 'true comic writer'

Continued from page 1
personality of the angry old man came to overshadow the work of the angry young man and in the end totally eclipsed it. Unlucky Jim should be his epitaph.

John Mortimer, the playwright, disagreed. "He was a genuine comic writer, probably the best after P.G. Wodehouse. In the 1950s Kingsley and John Osborne changed the whole world's attitude to writing. He had a lasting

influence and was a very good novelist."

He last saw Amis a few weeks ago at the Garrick Club when he was "doing his usual act of being a crusty and grumpy gentleman. But he was always very nice to me."

Keith Waterhouse awarded him "a very high place" in literary history. "I don't think there will be another Kingsley. He was a great storyteller, although he was much more than a storyteller," Auberon

Waugh, editor of *The Literary Review*, said. "There is nobody like him left from that generation. He did not give a damn what other people thought about him and he said what he thought. He turned out good novels which people liked reading, with intricate characterisation and a good plot. He was a big man in a small world of self-regarding people."

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Dillons bookshop in London yesterday anticipating a rush on Amis's work

Drugs in the frame as art detectives join Flying Squad

BY DALYA ALBERGE, ARTS CORRESPONDENT

SCOTLAND YARD'S Art and Antiques Squad is being merged with the Flying Squad from next January after an increasing link between art theft and activities such as drugs and terrorism.

Drug barons are creating a demand for stolen works to "launder" funds because art can be traded abroad easily.

Detective Chief Inspector Charles Hill, head of the Art Squad, said there had been a drugs connection in all the significant high-profile cases investigated by the squad in recent years. He mentioned works by Rubens and Vermeer stolen from the Co Wicklow home of Sir Alfred Beit, the late Irish arts patron, and Munch's *Scream* taken from the National Gallery in Oslo.

He also believes drugs were behind the theft of Titian's *Rest on the Flight to Egypt* from Longleat, Wiltshire, earlier this year, and Jean Baptiste Oudry's *White Duck* stolen in 1993 from the Marquess of Cholmondeley in Norfolk. Each of these paintings is valued at £5 million and remains on the police's most-wanted lists.

Philip Saunders, of *Trace*, the monthly magazine that liaises with police and art world in tracing stolen works, praised the work of the Art Squad and expressed concern about it being "swallowed up". But he added: "If this increases their scope, then all well and good."

News about the squad has come as preparations are under way for an important conference on art theft on November 14 and 15. International representatives from the police, insurance companies and governments will hear of the use of art to launder money, rewards and ransoms, and the latest technology. Art crime has entered the

big league of international crime: art worth an estimated £3 billion is stolen each year with a recovery rate of 3.5 per cent. Its image as a gentleman's crime is increasingly common. In 1990 a Lincoln's Inn doorman was beaten unconscious when two Gainsboroughs and a Reynolds were removed.

The rise in values on the legitimate market — in 1958 the record price for a Van Gogh was £120,000 and by 1990 it had increased to £50 million — has created a valuable commodity in money-laundering deals.

Mr Hill said the Art Squad has been "fully stretched" with up to only ten people working with it at any one time. The merger would make a "significant improvement" to their resources.

The squad's current investigations include liaising with German police over two Turner paintings, insured for £10 million each, stolen last year from a Frankfurt museum where they were on loan from the Tate Gallery in London.

Organisers of next month's conference at the Hyatt Carlton Tower Hotel include the Art Loss Register, an international database of stolen art and antiques that claims to have been directly responsible for recovering £17 million of art in its 4½ years.

James Enson, the Register's managing director, said: "The Art Squad leads the crusade. The rest of us must share information as freely and quickly as possible."

Art crimes are usually less opportunistic than other crimes. Some criminals take evening classes in their specialist area; others subscribe to *Trace* to discover which items are too hot to handle.

They also have a detailed knowledge of international law, to help them to take stolen works abroad.

BBC tries to lure foreign audiences with lavish new version of Ivanhoe

BY ALEXANDRA FREAN
MEDIA CORRESPONDENT

IVANHOE, Sir Walter Scott's swashbuckling novel set in medieval England among the knights of the crusades, is to be turned into a lavish eight-part costume drama by the BBC as part of the BBC's revival of the classics.

The BBC is also making a three-part series of *The Tenant of Wildfell Hall*, a tale of marital betrayal that caused a scandal when published in 1848. Juliet Gryn, the BBC's director of co-productions and business development, said the dramas were being created to boost ratings and increase revenue through sales to overseas broadcasters.

"This is the era of the costume drama. There is a real demand for quality productions of this nature around the world and it is something the BBC has always been brilliant at," she said. *Ivanhoe* has provided inspiration for film and television producers on at least four previous occasions. MGM's 1932 Hollywood production, starring Robert Taylor, Joan Fontaine and Elizabeth Taylor, was



The 1952 version of *Ivanhoe* with Elizabeth Taylor and Robert Taylor was one of the hits of the year

one of the hits of the year. Roger Moore made his British television debut in a 39-part adaptation for ITV. A BBC serialisation in ten parts was screened in 1970. In 1982 Anthony Andrews took the lead role in a television film on ITV.

The latest version follows a revival of the genre on the BBC in the past two years with adaptations of George Eliot's *Middlemarch*, Dickens's *Martin Chuzzlewit* and

Jane Austen's *Persuasion*. The BBC's most recent adaptation, *Pride and Prejudice*, has attained the highest ever ratings for a BBC classic adaptation with audiences of more than 11 million. The eight-part series, co-produced with the American Arts & Entertainment network, has been sold to eight overseas broadcasters, generating more than £500,000 for the BBC.

Ms Gryn said that co-productions of this type, in

which the costs were split with an overseas broadcaster or production house, enabled the BBC to embark on projects it could not otherwise afford.

"With restricted budgets around the world it is getting increasingly difficult to make top quality classic drama because it costs £1 million an hour. For any public service broadcaster that is very difficult to raise without co-production money," she said.

In the past five years the corporation has raised about £30 million of co-production finance a year. This year it has raised nearly £40 million, she added.

Ivanhoe, which has been adapted by Deborah Cook and produced by Jeremy Gwilt, who both worked on the successful series *The House of Eliot*, is to be a co-production with Arts & Entertainment. It is due for screening on British television in 1997. The BBC is looking for a co-producer for *The Tenant of Wildfell Hall*, which is to be dramatised by David Noakes, whose credits include the BBC's 1991 costume drama *Clarissa*.

Leeson could earn £3m from film

BY KATHRYN KNIGHT

NICK LEESON could earn up to £3 million from a Hollywood film starring Hugh Grant about the collapse of Barings Bank, Sir David Frost confirmed yesterday.

Sir David, who would produce the film, said that arrangements were at an early stage but the British actor had expressed an interest in the role of the trader blamed for the bank's £860 million collapse. Grant would stand to make more than £3 million for playing Leeson.

Mr Leeson, who is also expected to receive a £450,000 advance on his autobiography, is currently fighting extradition to Singapore where he could face up to 14 years imprisonment. Sir David, who interviewed him in prison in Frankfurt last month, said he had contacted Mr Grant's agent last week. "It is all very



Hugh Grant, left, may play Nick Leeson in a "morality tale" about the collapse of Barings Bank

premature. I do have an option for the film which we arranged last week and Hugh Grant has expressed an interest. But for every one film that is made there are 100 options on films."

He said he had approached Grant, currently appearing in



the comedy *Nine Months*, because it would be an interesting change of direction for the British actor. "I thought it was a part he would do supremely well and he would relish switching from upper class roles to working class roles because he is very versa-

tile." Mr Leeson is said to be delighted at the possible casting of Hugh Grant.

Several actresses are reported to be in the running for the role of Mr Leeson's wife, Lisa, who works in a tearoom to help to fund weekly flights to visit her husband.

Miranda Richardson, Jennifer Ehle, Helena Bonham-Carter and Niamh Cusack are all under consideration.

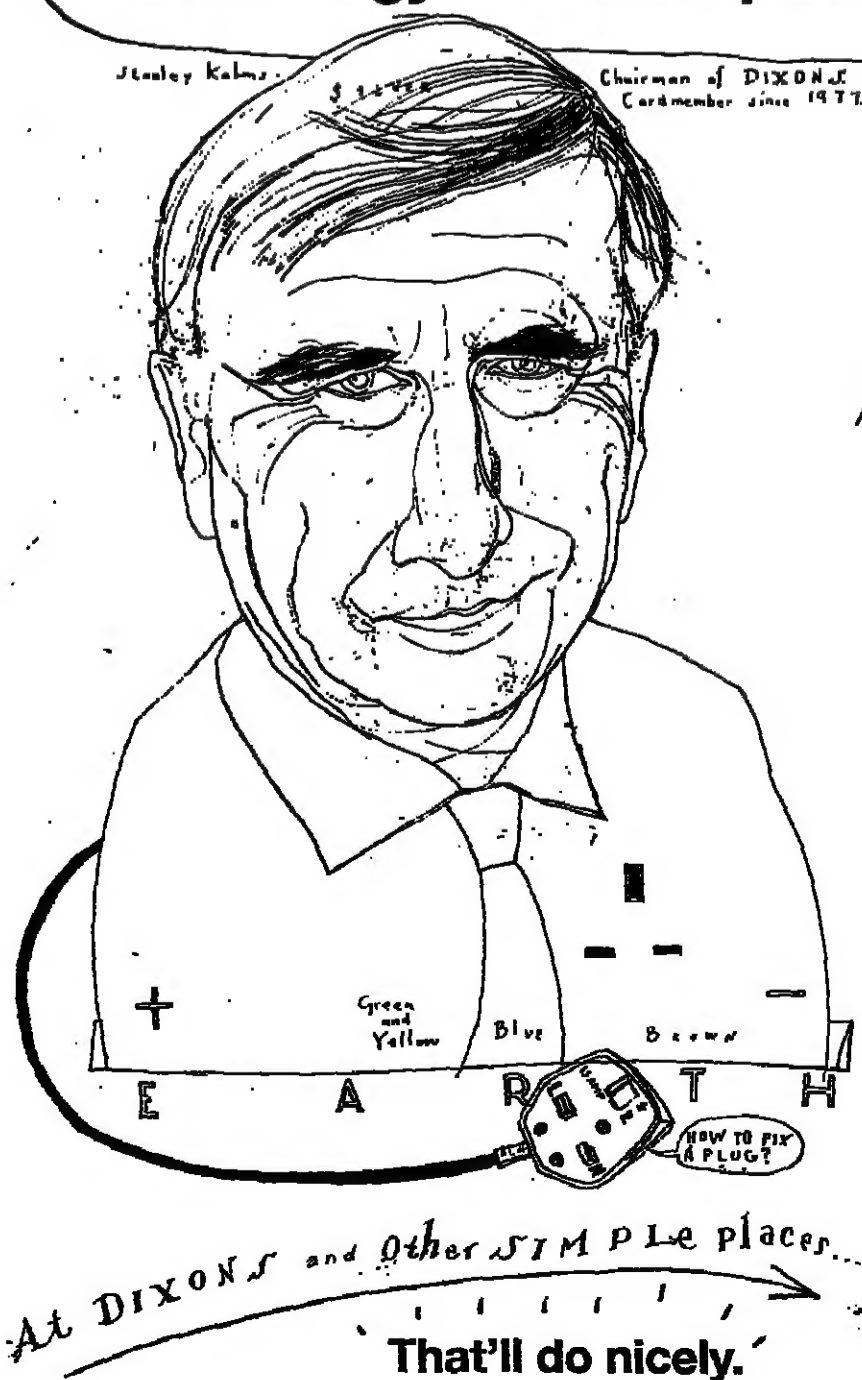
Sir David told *The Mail on Sunday* that the film would be "a modern morality tale" with "flashes of comedy".

James Bax, a senior Barings executive, has paid more than £400,000 for a Victorian mansion in the Scottish Highlands. Mr Bax was criticised by investigators last week for covering up a £50 million discrepancy in an account in January and has surrendered his passport to Singaporean authorities during their investigation.

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Birds, plants and insects receive second burst of life as Indian summer continues

Autumnal warmth melts the hearts of mating penguins

By KATHRYN KNIGHT

THE Indian summer is forecast to continue until the end of the month, confusing animals and plants and putting October on course to be the warmest since records began in 1659.

The weather has left vegetable gardens blooming with summer produce, lured birds and butterflies from hibernation and brought increased fertility among animals and birds. A spokesman at the London Weather Centre said that October had been abnormally dry so far and that London's average daily temperature of 16.3C was four degrees above normal. "Although we are only two thirds through the month, it is certainly panning out to be the warmest we know of."

The previous warmest was in 1969, with an average temperature of 15.3C. Summer resorts are seeing a booming trade, even after the clocks have gone back, and Peter Bradley, of Kew Gardens, said his vegetable patch looked like a summer garden.

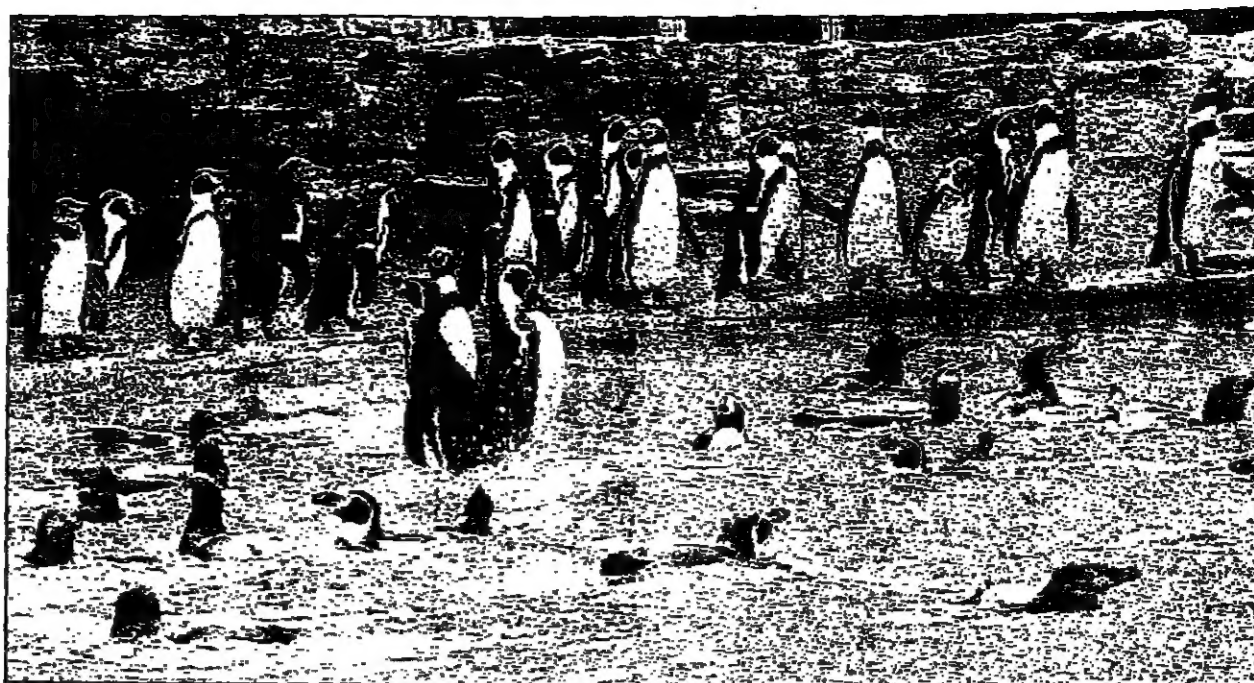
"I am still picking tomatoes and peppers from my garden and they are simply reflowering and growing back. It is very unusual," he said, adding that Kew was a riot of colour as the autumn colours combined with still-flowering summer plants such as begonias.

The warmth has also caused a population explosion among Britain's penguins. Officials at Mersey Bird Gardens, in Wimborne, Dorset, are being forced to send 25 of their penguins to be rehoused in Scotland. They have run out of room after many of the confused birds laid two clutches of eggs

instead of one. Alan Martin, the gardens manager, said: "The weather has been so mild over the last couple of winters that they seem to have slipped out of their normal cycle."

"The normal nesting time is early spring but I've already seen some walking around with bits of straw in their beaks, which is a sure sign that they are planning to build nests." Moorhens at Kew Gardens have also raised a second batch of young this year.

Richard Millington, of the Bird Information Service, said that housemartins had delayed their journeys south and were still feeding young in parts of Norfolk. "It's phenomenal. The warm westerly winds are also bringing in American passerines - small perching birds which



Penguins in Wimborne, Dorset, laid a second clutch of eggs and must be rehoused to prevent overcrowding

are very rare in Britain. A veery bird has visited Britain for only the third time in the Western Isles and Mediterranean species are enjoying our climate even though it is late in the year."

Insects were prolific, and butterflies were bemused, Patrick Roper, of Butterfly Conservation, said. Red admirals were still plentiful and many

peacock butterflies, which went into hibernation at the end of August, had re-emerged thinking it was spring.

"After a cool September, the warm October has deceived them and their hibernation cycle has been broken," Mr Roper said. "The problems come if they cannot stock up on food and are not ready

when the winter comes." The mild autumn has also encouraged bigger species of spider to survive and mate. The male house spiders *Tegeneria*, some as big as a palm's length, are thriving.

Rainfall for September was above average, although many places, including Yorkshire, still have drought restrictions. Low rainfall this

month offers no immediate prospect of relief.

Temperatures are forecast to average 15C and 16C on Monday and Tuesday, with a slight dip on Wednesday and warmer weather again by the end of the week. Scattered showers across the country will soon die out.

Forecast, page 22

Scientists challenge safety of nuclear waste tip

By NIGEL WILLIAMSON
WHITEHALL CORRESPONDENT

A PUBLIC inquiry will hear scientific analysis this week casting doubt on the long-term safety of plans to build an underground nuclear waste dump at Sellafield in Cumbria.

When the inquiry reopens tomorrow, Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Pollution is due to give evidence which will suggest that the risk of plutonium leaking into the water supply has been underestimated. Campaigners say that in 30,000 years this could have grown to levels which constitute a lethal dose in drinking water. The claim is disputed by UK Nirex, the nuclear industry's waste disposal company.

UK Nirex had hoped to build an underground nuclear waste depository within a decade. After a long and frustrating search for a suitable site, it eventually settled on Sellafield in 1990, but scientific problems have delayed progress.

Last week, the pollution inspectorate, which will make the decision whether to licence the site, released its own independent risk assessment reports to Friends of the Earth, the environment campaign group. The reports show that the inspectorate believes there could be fundamental flaws in geo-chemical assumptions made by Nirex.

A spokesman for Friends of the Earth said: "They assume plutonium cannot dissolve and so stays safely in the repository. But plutonium can form complexes with other substances which increase its solubility." This would mean that, potentially, plutonium from the underground store could be transported by underground water and find its way into the drinking water supply.

This is a whole area of chemistry which Nirex has ignored," Friends of the Earth said. "They have made some very simple assumptions which bear no relation to a very complex reality. These reports show that at least another five or six years research are needed. The group believes that the new evidence will scare off the City and jeopardise nuclear industry privatisation plans."

A spokesman for Nirex said: "We believe these findings have been deliberately slanted to produce an unrealistic case." Nirex will begin giving evidence to the inquiry on Wednesday. The company proposes to build an underground laboratory to test the rocks at depth as the first step in the construction of the subterranean waste dump.

Cruise ship passengers threaten to sue P&O

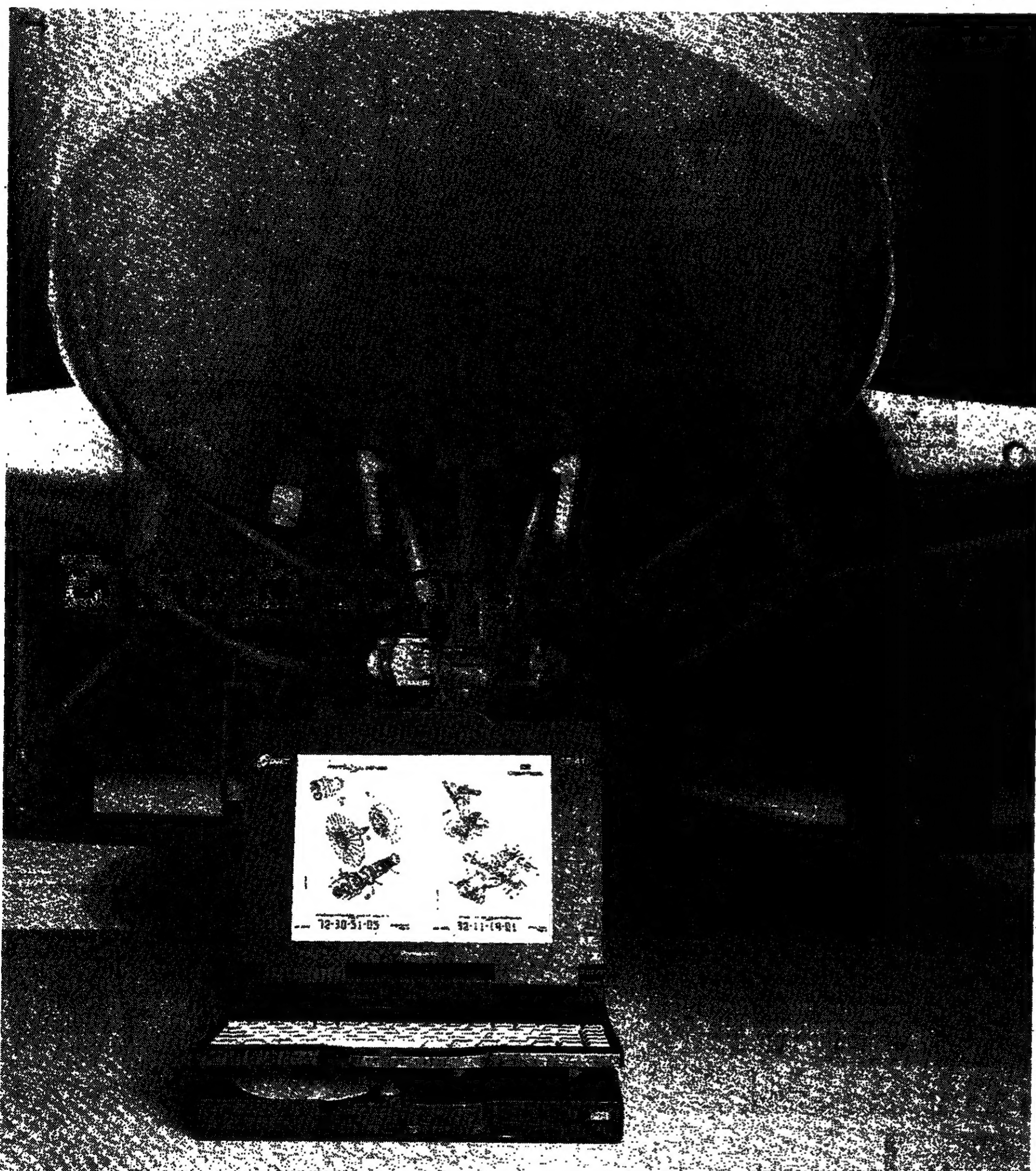
By KATHRYN KNIGHT

MORE than 400 passengers from the cruise ship *Oriana* are threatening to sue P&O for compensation over claims that their cruise turned into a nightmare. During a three-week Caribbean voyage last month, they allege, the £200 million ship, the fastest built for 25 years, ran into a hurricane, narrowly missed two more and vibrated heavily and noisily whenever it increased speed.

Trips to three out of seven Caribbean islands were cancelled and frightened passengers left their rooms to sleep in the bar in rough weather. One passenger tried to board a Cunard ship while in port but was persuaded back on board, it is claimed.

The liner has been plagued by problems since its launch earlier this year. It arrived late for its naming in Southampton after a spate of technical problems and also had trouble on its maiden voyage with faults in the computer system.

Gwyn Hughes, managing director for P&O cruises, said: "The ship behaved admirably in hurricane conditions. The speed at which it operates does not affect the passengers or their enjoyment."



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Detectives search for bloody clothing and weapon that inflicted 'horrific' head injuries

Murdered stable girl lived in fear of stalker, say police

By MICHAEL HORSNELL

A STABLE girl battered to death at the Devon headquarters of the National Hunt trainer, Richard Frost, had been living in fear of a stalker for several weeks, police said yesterday.

But Jessie Hurlstone, 27, turned down the offer to move in with her employers to escape the man and stayed in her caravan in the yard where she was killed. Detectives investigating her murder described her injuries as among the worst they had seen as they hunted for bloody clothing worn by her attacker and the blunt instrument used to kill her.

A man of 38 was being questioned yesterday as Miss Hurlstone's family mourned the "horse mad" young woman at their home in Romford, east London. Miss Hurlstone, the daughter of Caroline Hurlstone, Liberal Democrat leader of the council at the London borough of Havering, had been due to



Richard Frost, left, who runs the Buckfastleigh stables

welcome her family to the West Country for Christmas. Her stepfather, Terry Hurlstone, 56, a retired teacher, said: "We simply cannot believe this has happened. Jessie was a lovely, popular, happy and attractive girl. Horses were her life."

When she failed to arrive for work on Saturday she was found by another stable girl sent to look for her at 7.20am in the caravan where she lived with her mongrel, Dennis,



and four cats at Hawson stables near Buckfastleigh. Glynn Frost, wife of the trainer and mother of the Grand National winning jockey Jimmy Frost, said Miss Hurlstone had been worried about being followed on Friday, hours before she was found dead.

Mrs Frost suggested that she sleep in the house that night but Miss Hurlstone preferred to return to her caravan if someone walked

with her. At 11pm, after she returned alone from the White Hart pub in Buckfastleigh, Mr Frost walked her back. She told him: "Once I am in and have locked the door I will be all right." Mrs Frost added: "I think the stalking had been going on seriously for two or three weeks."

Detective Superintendent Steve Pearce, leading the murder inquiry, said Miss Hurlstone had died from "horrific" head injuries. It is not thought that she had been sexually assaulted. He said: "We are checking various lines of inquiry including one that she was being stalked. We are interviewing as many of her friends as possible and are interested in any relationships she may have had."

"We are appealing to anyone who may have seen her or spoken to her after she left the pub until she was found. It was an horrific scene, a terrible attack, and frightful for the girl who went to rouse her."

Detectives were investigating a domestic incident said to



Jessie Hurlstone at Exeter races. Her stepfather said "horses were her life"

involve a man obsessed with Miss Hurlstone at the stables last Wednesday. About 50 officers searched the yard for the murder weapon and bloodied clothing.

Miss Hurlstone, who had three brothers and a sister,

went to school in Romford before taking a horse management course at Redbridge College of Further Education. She moved to the West Country eight years ago.

Ian Cox, landlord of the White Hart, said Miss

Hurlstone had been a Friday night regular for the past few weeks. People in the pub were "shocked" at her death.

The Frost stable withdrew two horses from races at Wincanton yesterday as a mark of respect.

Man falls to death at Blackpool Tower

By TIM JONES

A MAN jumped more than 350ft to his death from Blackpool Tower as his wife and two children made their way down from the highest viewing platform. Onlookers watched in horror as he fell on to the roof of the entertainment complex below on Saturday.

Police said the man was on his way down when he said he had mislaid his wallet and wanted to go back to look for it. The wallet was understood to have been found later in his jacket pocket.

Police said there were no suspicious circumstances and confirmed that it would have been almost impossible to fall from the viewing platform without making a determined effort to get past safety barriers. The man, from Swindon, Wiltshire, was filmed by security cameras during the incident.

A spokesman for the attraction said the viewing area was enclosed. "He must have climbed out at a higher level. He could not have got there by accident."

Mountain Prince welcomes press into royal retreat

By A STAFF REPORTER

PRINCE CHARLES invited journalists to a private function at Balmoral for the first time yesterday, to hear him praise the work of Scotland's mountain rescue teams.

Access to the royal holiday retreat is usually tightly restricted. Even when the estate grounds are open to the public, only one door is open into the grand ballroom.

Yesterday nearly 200 guests were allowed into the ballroom through a side entrance, revealing private rooms, including the pine-paneled office of the Queen's equerry, which features maps of the 50,000-acre estate and drawings of members of the Royal Family.

The tarmac-covered hallway leading to the ballroom is lined with royal portraits, antiques and furniture. The ballroom, where the Royal Family holds cellists and family parties during the summer holidays, is decorated on each wall with deer antlers, and there are drawings below balconies at each end.

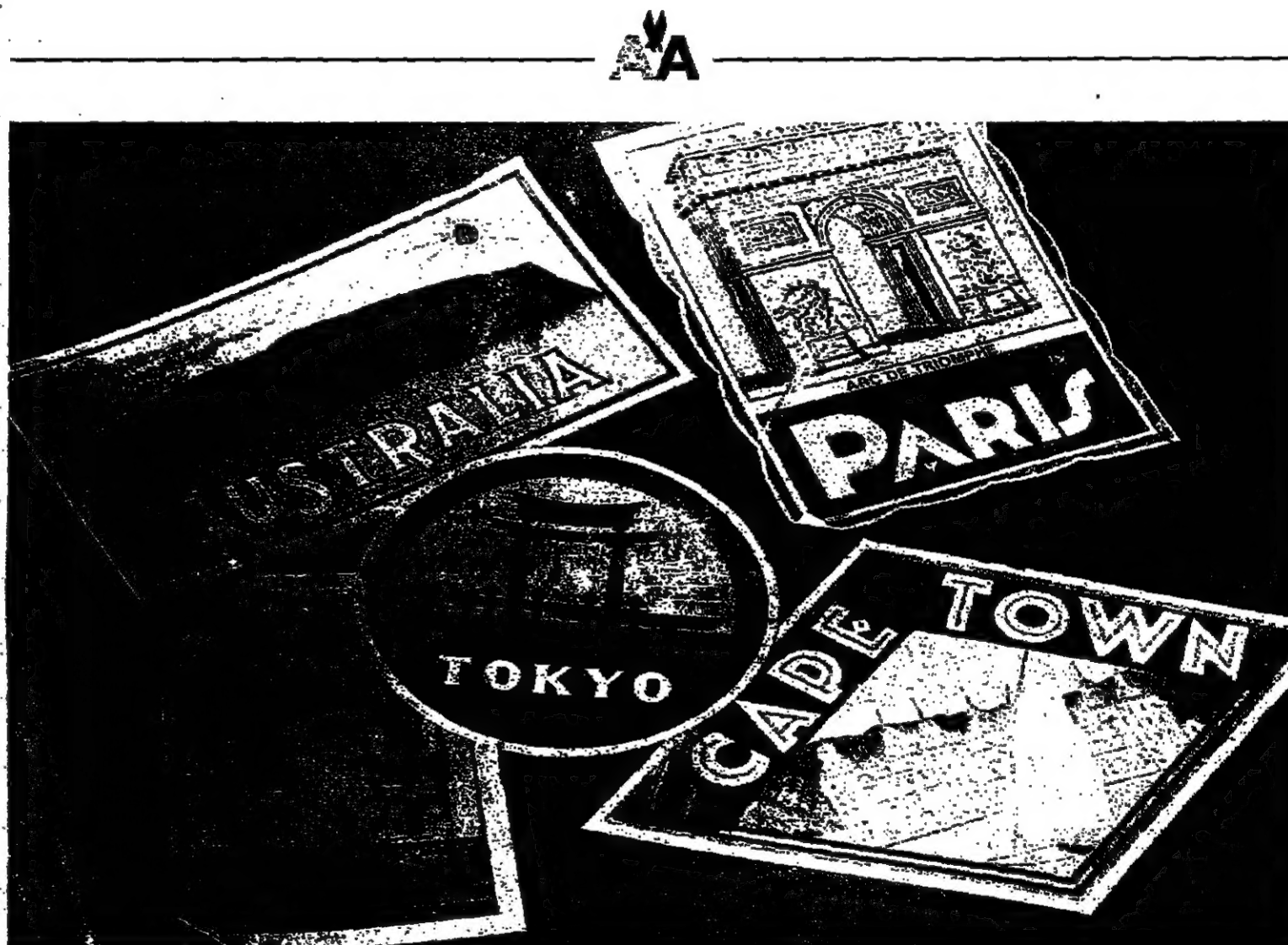
A Buckingham Palace spokeswoman said: "The Prince asked for the press to be allowed in so he could say thank you for the outstanding work the mountain rescue

teams do each year. Although he does not have any specific links with mountain rescue, he wanted to give them his personal support."

The Prince, dressed in jacket and kilt, spent more than an hour chatting to guests as he heard tales from representatives of Scotland's 24 mountain rescue teams. Balmoral borders Loch Lomond, one of the Prince's favourite retreats but also one of the country's most dangerous mountains.

Paying tribute to the volunteers, he said: "I did just want to show how much your efforts are appreciated, for what it is worth. I am sure all of you know how many risks are taken in the hills. You must recognise there are people who go into the hills who may not have the right equipment or who have not told people where they are going." He presented the Scottish Mountain Rescue Committee with a £19,000 Land Rover Defender, donated by the Rover Group.

The Prince, who attended church at Crathie with the Queen Mother earlier yesterday, is expected to leave Balmoral in the next few days. The Queen and Duke of Edinburgh have already returned to London.



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Does God throw dice in black holes?

The Waterstone's lecture, sponsored by The Times and Icon

STEPHEN HAWKING, the legendary scientist and author of the phenomenal bestseller, *A Brief History of Time*, will make a rare public appearance at the Royal Albert Hall to deliver a lecture on Wednesday November 22 at 7.30pm.

Though robbed of speech and paralysed by an incurable wasting disease, Professor Hawking is one of the greatest scientific thinkers of our age. Unbound by the conventional procedures of scientific investigation, Hawking has been free to make bold leaps, tackling the most fundamental and important of all questions — how the universe began and how it will end. With the aid of his sophisticated computerised voice synthesiser, Professor Hawking will deliver his lecture and answer selected questions from the audience. The evening will be chaired by J.P. McEvoy, author of *Stephen Hawking for Beginners*.

Tickets are available at £12, £10, or £7 for concessions from the Royal Albert Hall ticket shop (open 9am-5pm daily); by telephone with a credit card on 0171-589 8212; or by post using the coupon below (£2.50 transaction charge on all telephone and postal bookings).

All profits from the evening will be donated to the Motor Neurone Disease Association.



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Campaigners in London yesterday, fighting for women's freedom to remarry without permission

Jewish women pull at 'chains' of marriage

MORE than 50 Jewish women gathered outside the office of the Chief Rabbi yesterday to demand a change in religious laws which can leave them "chained" to ex-husbands.

Jewish law gives men the right to withhold a religious bill of divorce, or get, after a marriage break-up. Without

this, his ex-wife cannot remarry in an Orthodox or United Synagogue, even if a court has granted her a civil divorce. Ex-wives left in this situation are known as *agunot*, or chained women.

Sandra Blackman, 56, one of the protest organisers, said: "Men can use this as a bargaining counter over money

and property. We are just asking for some humanity."

The Chief Rabbi, Dr Jonathan Sacks, was away in the Far East, but the women waited for an hour in Tavistock Square, central London, to make their protest at the end of a meeting of the Board of Deputies of British Jews.

Administrative objections force a rethink

Mackay to drop plan for cap on legal aid budget

By FRANCES GIBB, LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

THE Lord Chancellor is to drop proposals to limit payments for criminal legal aid after opposition from the legal profession and from the Legal Aid Board.

Lord Mackay of Clashfern is drafting a White Paper on legal aid which will see the biggest overhaul of the £1.4 billion scheme since its inception in 1949. But his Green Paper proposals published in May have encountered strong opposition from legal groups and from civil libertarians.

More importantly, the Legal Aid Board, which runs the scheme and would have to implement the proposals, is expected to tell the Lord Chancellor later this month that there would be difficulties in capping criminal legal aid. The number of defendants in any one year could not be controlled and therefore a cap on the budget could leave some defendants unrepresented. However, the board believes that limits on civil legal aid could be viable.

Home Office measures can

cause increases in the demand for criminal legal aid. Cuts on the right to silence have already produced a rise in demands by suspects in police stations for solicitors to be present. The civil liberties group Liberty has commissioned an opinion from Michael Beloff, QC, which says that legal aid limits could put Britain in breach of international human rights obligations.

The Legal Aid Board will suggest two possible courses to Lord Mackay. The first is an overall limit on the whole of the legal aid budget, allowing the criminal part to rise or fall with demand, at the expense of civil legal aid. Alternatively, the limit could apply only to the civil budget so that the criminal budget would remain demand-led, as now.

Under the Green Paper proposals, the entire scheme would be capped and law firms and advice agencies would work to fixed NHS-style budgets. Contracts awarded after tender would be provided only to those that reached a quality threshold.



Mackay: wants overhaul of £1.4 billion scheme

One of the main aims is to shift the focus away from lawyers and the courts towards cheaper agencies.

The Bar has just issued its own response to the Green Paper, calling on the Government to think again. The Bar is worried about control being placed in the hands of solicitors' firms and advice agencies, which will negotiate barristers' fees. At present barristers negotiate their own

legal aid fees. Peter Goldsmith, QC, Bar Council chairman, said: "The key proposals — to put an overall limit on legal aid cash and to pass the legal aid purse-strings to a selected few suppliers, will, in practice, reduce consumer choice, deny assistance to many deserving cases and provide financial incentives for the suppliers to handle cases in the cheapest possible way and to make money for themselves irrespective of the needs of the client."

Lord Mackay is also running into problems with another of the Green Paper's main proposals: the extension of legal aid to tribunals, which he wants to test in a pilot project. Some ministers have expressed opposition to this on the ground that it would increase the bill still further. But many supporters believe that an extension could be achieved cheaply because aided cases would be more likely to win and the costs could be recouped. Research has shown that people with the benefit of lawyers or advisers at tribunals stand a much greater chance of winning.

Divorce reform proposals flawed, say solicitors

By FRANCES GIBB

ONE in two couples seeking divorce does not want mediation, according to a survey that runs counter to the Government's plans for reform of divorce laws.

The survey, published today, found that 48 per cent of couples would not feel comfortable going through mediation with their spouse to come to an agreement over children and property, and less than a third felt their divorce could be resolved amicably through a mediator. The survey, by the 3,500-member Solicitors Family Law Association, says its findings challenge the assumptions of the Government's proposals which envisage most couples going through mediation.

Nigel Shepherd, the chairman, said: "This survey shows us that mediation will only be appropriate for a minority of people, probably about 30 to 40 per cent." The survey of 1,100 clients of solicitors in the association coincides with publication of the group's response to the Government's divorce reforms, expected in next month's Queen's Speech.

The reforms, contained in a White Paper published by the

Lord Chancellor earlier this year, are aimed at reducing conflict engendered by the present adversarial system. Instead of rushing to lawyers, the Lord Chancellor wants couples to go to mediation where they are encouraged to communicate amicably and "think through the consequences of divorce before it happens".

Mediation, where trained counsellors help couples, is supported in principle by the family solicitors but they insist it must be an option and not an alternative to legal advice.

"The survey found that 88 per cent of clients found it helpful to have a solicitor look after their interests in a divorce. In its response to the Lord Chancellor, the association says: "We remain concerned that vulnerable individuals might feel forced into mediation, only to be taken advantage of by the more dominant individual."

"Without access to individual independent legal advice, such situations could cause real injustice to the weaker party," it concluded.

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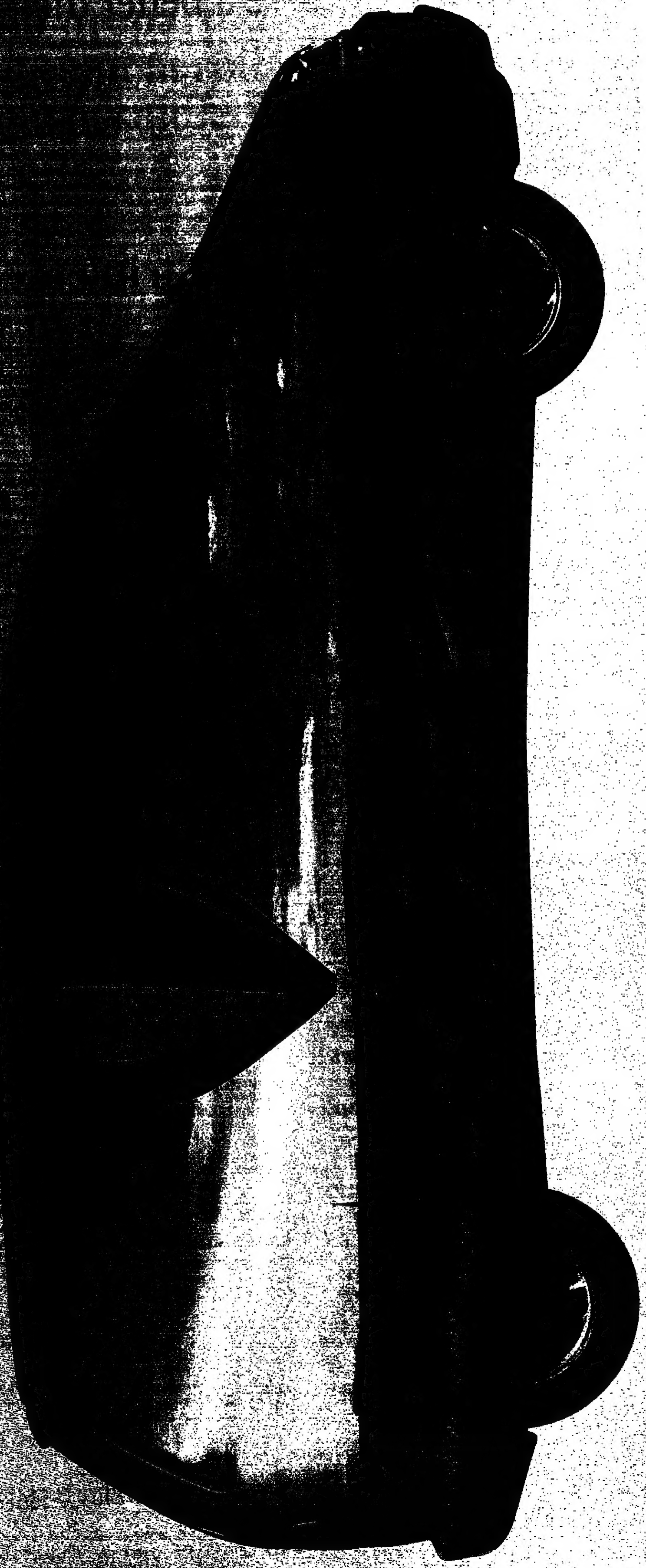
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Children who eat more sugar may have a better diet

BY NIGEL HAWKES
SCIENCE EDITOR

SUGAR, the food second only to fat as a demon of diet, has been given a clean bill of health in a study that overturns many of the most cherished beliefs about healthy eating. Sugar does not make children fat nor does it displace other important items in the diet. It may actually improve the diet because the evidence is that children who eat more sugar eat less fat. The study was carried out by a team led by Professor Donald Naismith, of the Department of Nutrition at King's College London, observing 143 children from two north London

secondary schools — 76 boys and 67 girls aged between 11 and 13.

The children, assisted by their parents, weighed and recorded every item of food, including sweets, eaten over a seven-day period. The records were checked for completeness and accuracy after 24 hours, three days, and a week.

The results, published in the *Journal of Human Nutrition and Dietetics*, show that the children who ate the most sugar were the least likely to be overweight. Furthermore, children with the lowest consumption of sugar were found to eat a fifth more fat.

The results also contradict the belief that children eat sugar in

TIPS FOR HEALTHY EATING

- Any meat is good. Eat liver at least once a month.
- Eat plenty of bread, cereals, potatoes, pasta and rice. Do not be afraid to add sugar.
- Eat dairy products at least once a day for calcium.
- Eat oily fish — mackerel, herring or salmon — once a week.
- Use olive oil, rapeseed or sunflower oils for cooking or dressings but that apart, do not worry about different sorts of fat in the diet.
- Moderate drinking protects against heart disease.

preference for fruit, vegetables and cereals. The measurement of dietary fibre, which largely comes from these foods, was no lower in those who ate more sugar than those who ate less. Nor was the

intake of most vitamins and minerals affected, with the possible exception of vitamin A.

The conclusion is that children with large appetites eat more of everything, rather than choosing

sugar-rich foods. The denigration of sugar as "empty calories" by critics is naive, the team says, since most sugar is eaten with a great variety of other nutrients in manufactured foods and prepared dishes, to which it contributes taste and texture as well as energy.

Sugar is also defended in a pamphlet published today by the Social Affairs Unit and written by Dr David Conning, who for nine years was Director General of the British Nutrition Foundation. Although blamed for many diseases, "extensive and expensive research has failed to substantiate any of these claims except where consumption is grossly excessive", he

said. Dr Conning's pamphlet, *A New Diet of Reason*, says that the healthy eating debate has a history of bad science.

The publication of the pamphlet has been inspired by the recent winding-up of the Department of Health's Nutrition Task Force, which held its last meeting two weeks ago.

Women who suffer depression and stress before their period can be helped by a high-starch diet and reducing the time between meals, research has found. Eating three meals a day with long intervals in between is said to cause swings in blood glucose level which contribute to pre-menstrual syndrome.

A killer that picks only on the weak

IT IS tragic that the Siamese twins Chloe and Nicole Astbury died from the rare and very lethal intestinal disease, necrotising enterocolitis, when in other ways they were doing so well.

However, contrary to reports, the disease does not strike by chance. Parents of newborn babies can be reasonably certain that if their child is otherwise healthy, it will not affect them. The Siamese twins had risk factors that made them likely victims.

The twins had withstood major surgery to the gut, which may well have affected its blood supply, and had started on regular oral feeding when the disease struck. In the typical case, the affected baby has usually been delivered early and has suffered additional ill health, often with-standing unusual complications including poor oxygenation. It is also more common in children with congenital heart disease if blood oxygen supplies have been reduced.

The infection usually starts in the far end of the

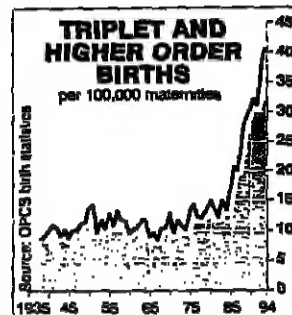
small intestine but the nearer reaches of the gut or the large bowel can become involved. The exact process is uncertain but it seems that the lining has for some reason been starved of adequate oxygen for a time, possibly only by spasm in the blood vessels. Major surgery could be a possible cause of an interrupted oxygen supply but frequently it is no more than that induced by a reaction distress, infection, or an exchange transfusion of the baby's blood.

The intestinal wall produces inadequate mucus, so invading bacteria are able to become established, ready to proliferate with regular oral feeding. Gas produced by the bacteria collects in the gut and may enter the veins. The intestinal wall becomes friable and necrotic, and will perforate without successful non-operative treatment with antibiotics and drip-feeding. Perforation leads to peritonitis, an overwhelming infection.

About a third of babies who develop necrotising enterocolitis need surgery. Overall, two-thirds of the baby suffers survive.

DR THOMAS STUTTFORD

Infertility treatment trebles the birth of triplets



BY JEREMY LAURANCE

THE number of triplet births in Britain has trebled in less than a decade after remaining unchanged for the previous 260 years. Figures show that 260 sets of triplets and eight sets of quadruplets were born in 1994 compared with fewer than 90 sets of triplets in 1985. The number of twins has also risen with 3,451 sets born in 1994.

The sharp rise is associated with new treatments for infertility in the 1980s. Researchers are worried that in spite of greater awareness of the risks of multiple births with fertility treatments, the rate of triplet births is still rising.

Allison MacFarlane of the National Perinatal Epidemiology Unit, which published the figures, said: "From 1990 to 1992 we thought the growth might be slowing but then it picked up again. We are concerned. I would have hoped patients and doctors would be more aware of the risks of fertility treatment but these people are desperate to have kids." Ms MacFarlane said the birth of triplets put a huge strain on parents.

"No one has three hands. Parents who come out of hospital with three babies face



Anthony and Janne Goble with their triplets Alice, left, Elizabeth and Olivia. Mrs Goble said: "Given a choice of three or none there's no question which I would choose"

a huge amount of work," she said. "The mother can only breastfeed in rotation which means she will be doing it a lot of the time. If one baby yells it wakes the others and the mother becomes exhausted."

Parents face heavy financial costs which often come on top of the expense of infertility treatment, she said. "They may already be in debt and have three babies to feed and clothe without hand-me-downs."

A study by the unit, *Three, Four or More*, revealed the desperation of some mothers and the shortage of help from

social services departments. One woman had to threaten a nervous breakdown to get help at night. Another wrote: "For the first 12 months I didn't go out. My husband went to the supermarket and I shopped for clothes by post."

Since 1990 test-tube baby clinics providing in-vitro fertilisation treatment have been limited by law to replacing a maximum of three embryos in the womb. Until then some clinics replaced up to ten to increase the chances of a live birth.

Hugh Whittall, deputy director of the Human Fertil-

isation and Embryology Authority, said the rate of multiple births at the clinics licensed by the authority had remained steady since 1990 and some now set their own limit of two embryos. However many more women had treatment with fertility drugs to stimulate ovulation, often in their local NHS hospital. "We can't account for what happens with non-licensed treatments," he said.

Advice is available from the *Twins and Multiple Births Association*, PO Box 30, Little Sutton, South Wirral, L66 1TH, tel 0151 348 0020.

'For the first few months it was a production line'

BY JEREMY LAURANCE

UNTIL the day her three daughters were born, Janne Goble had tried to close her mind to the implications. Her consultant had warned her that the risk of having triplets was so great she should not prepare herself until the last minute. "We didn't buy anything. Although I had known I was carrying triplets from early on it was still a shock when they were born."

Mrs Goble, 35, whose husband, Anthony, is a harpsichord maker in Oxford, had been given a fertility drug for polycystic ovary disease, a common cause of infertility.

"The clinic said they would monitor me very carefully and I probably wouldn't have a multiple birth. But I did." Her daughters Alice, Elizabeth and Olivia, now five,

were born seven weeks prematurely and spent three weeks in intensive care at the John Radcliffe Hospital, Oxford.

"When they came home we thought two of us could cope with three of them. But because they were so small we needed one person per child. They needed feeding three hourly and I wanted to do it myself. We had a wonderful midwife and I managed for three or four months, using milk formula at night. It was just a production line."

Mrs Goble, a nurse, knew who to approach at social services. In the early months she had help five mornings and three nights a week "so we could get some sleep". Her husband, who works near by, went home at lunchtime and her mother "lived on the doorstep for a year".

She added: "I know how fortunate I was. Many don't get anything like that amount of help."

She encouraged the children to walk as early as possible. "From 18 months they walked everywhere. They are brilliant walkers. We went camping in Cornwall this summer and they walked for six miles."

The children have always been dressed differently and encouraged to have their own friends. The hardest thing was to give each child individual attention. "They have always had to share me. Right from the start they have had to share everything. I don't remember much about the first 18 months. But it has been wonderful. Given a choice between none and three there is no question which I would choose."

Dirty buses face ban in clean-up

Buses that pollute the environment are likely to be forced off the roads if the recommendations of a committee set up by the Department of Transport are adopted. It wants to attract car-users by improving the image and use of buses with better ticketing systems and more bus lanes, as well as greater use of "low-profile" buses that are easier for the elderly to board. The committee is due to report next year.

Police volunteers

Lincolnshire Police, which made £900,000 out this year, has become the first force to use unpaid civilians to do administrative work. It has recruited no new officers for three years.

Sailor rescued

A German sailor was rescued from his yacht after drifting for three days off the Shetlands. The man had been sailing from the Faeroe Isles to Germany when the boat lost its mast in high winds.

Sex film warning

The Independent Television Commission issued a formal warning to the satellite Fantasy Channel after it showed an uncensored version of *Requiem For A Vampire*, a violent sex film including a rape scene.

Net gains

South West Water is creating the biggest coarse fishery in the West Country by transferring thousands of fish from the Lower Tamar lake to the nearby Upper Tamar lake. It will open on November 6.

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Minister says it would be daft to exclude half the population from consideration

Portillo preparing to back combat role for women soldiers

By MICHAEL EVANS, DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

WOMEN may be given their first chance to join the Army in a combat role, bringing equality of opportunity to all three Armed Services. Service chiefs are conducting a review to see whether women should be allowed to fight in front-line infantry and armoured regiments.

Opportunities for women in the Army have expanded significantly in recent years but the female combat soldier has remained a taboo until now. Michael Portillo, the Defence Secretary, has given the strongest indication that he might support a front-line role for women.

He told *The Times*: "I'm interested in utilising human resources generally as well as possible. I wait for advice from the Army but it would be daft if we excluded half the population from consideration." He

pointed out that women were already in combat roles on Royal Navy ships and flying combat aircraft for the Navy and the RAF. The Armed Forces are now committed to a strong equal opportunities policy and women's careers are monitored to ensure they receive the same treatment as men.

Women in the Army already serve much closer to the front line than ever before but until now the MoD has been reluctant to follow the example of Canada, Belgium, Holland and Norway, which have opened combat roles to suitably qualified soldiers, regardless of gender.

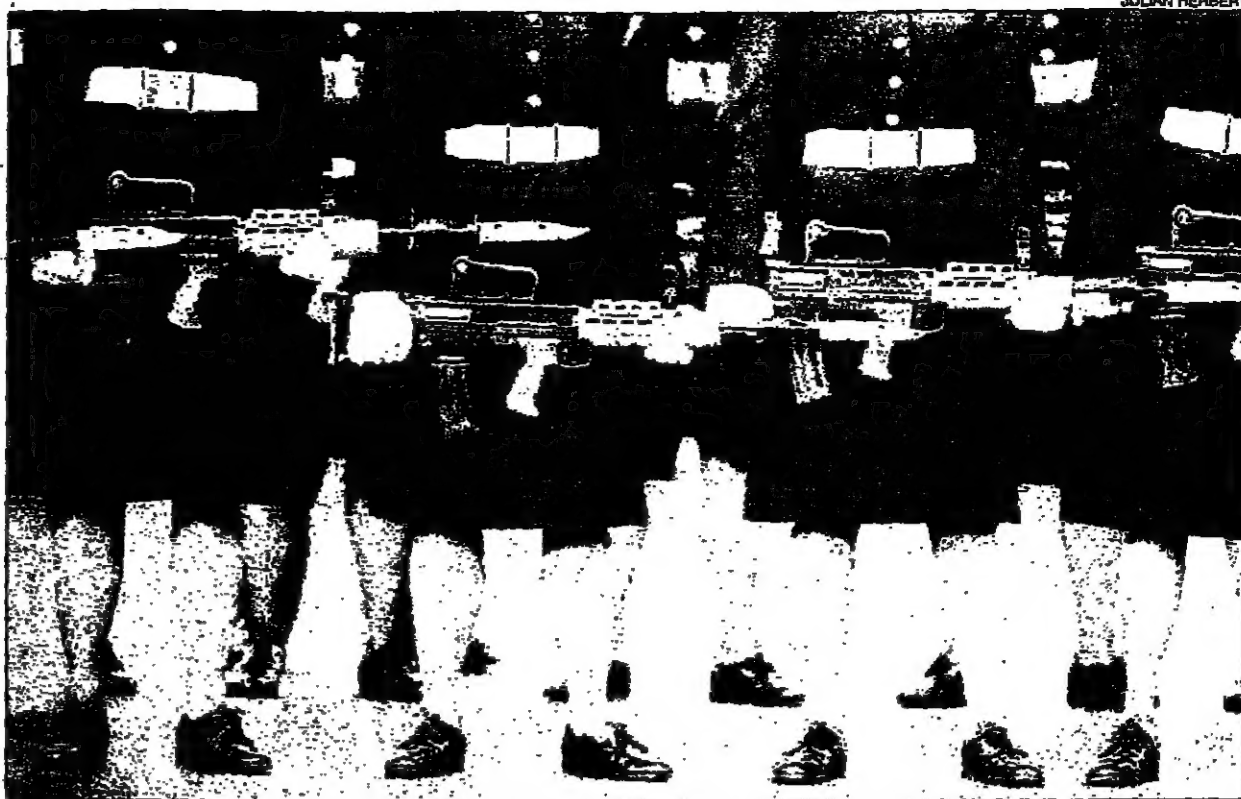
Women in the Army can be armed and can fire weapons in self-defence but they are banned from killing the enemy in an offensive role. The perceived view has been that

women would not have the physical stamina or the aggressive instincts to take part in full-scale combat in an infantry role.

Mr Portillo's hint that he may be in favour of a combat role for women will have repercussions for the Royal Marines and the RAF Regiment, both of which are awaiting the decision on the Army before making up their minds on the issue.

The Royal Navy has about 700 women serving on 35 warships. It is expected that the first woman commander of a ship will be appointed in less than ten years. The Navy also has one woman pilot and five women observers under training.

The RAF has eight women pilots, including one who qualified this year for fast-jet combat duties, and twelve



Waiting in line and ready to step into battle: women officer cadets at a Sovereign's Parade at Sandhurst

women navigators. Another 28 are undergoing pilot training and 22 navigator training. An increasing number of women are serving with British forces in United Nations peacekeeping roles in Cyprus,

former Yugoslavia and on board ships in the Adriatic. British infantry regiments are 1,200 soldiers under strength and there are concerns about the shortage of recruits for units such as the

Parachute Regiment, which is short of about 250. If the trend continues in the long term, women in combat roles could help to ease the problem.

Mr Portillo was adamant that manpower cuts in the

Government's Options for Change and Frontline First defence reviews had not gone too far but some of the public believed that recruiting had stopped. "We still need new young people," he said.

Our man likes to drive a Skoda

By NIGEL WILLIAMSON

THE Foreign Office has been criticised by Labour for failing to buy British cars for overseas posts in spite of spending £21 million in the past five years. Ladas, Skodas and even Vespa scooters have been purchased for some of the less prestigious postings.

Malcolm Rifkind, the Foreign Secretary, will be asked this week by Alan Milburn, a Labour member of the Public Accounts Committee, to revise the purchasing programme in favour of a made-in-Britain policy. Over half of the vehicles bought in the past five years — 976 — have been purchased abroad.

Although well-known British makes such as Rover and Land Rover top the list, six Ladas have been bought for posts in the former Soviet Union, where their ability to withstand the harsh winter is greatly prized.

Expert forgers force traders to reject £50 notes

By TIM JONES

THE £50 note is being shunned by traders because forgers have become increasingly sophisticated and one of the country's largest brewers has banned its pubicans from accepting it.

Increasingly, shop owners and large companies, frightened of being duped, are causing embarrassment to customers by refusing to accept £50 notes. The rejection of £50 notes, more than 270 years after they were first printed, comes after a huge increase in high-technology forgeries by gangs that travel the world to learn the latest advances in printing techniques.

Green King brewery has told its 900 tenants and managers not to accept the notes because pubs are targeted by counterfeiters as easy outlets for passing on the notes. Clive Pettit, the brewery's marketing manager, said: "Pubs are almost wholly cash based and if a customer gets change for a £5 round of drinks after passing on a forged £50 note the loss is very great."

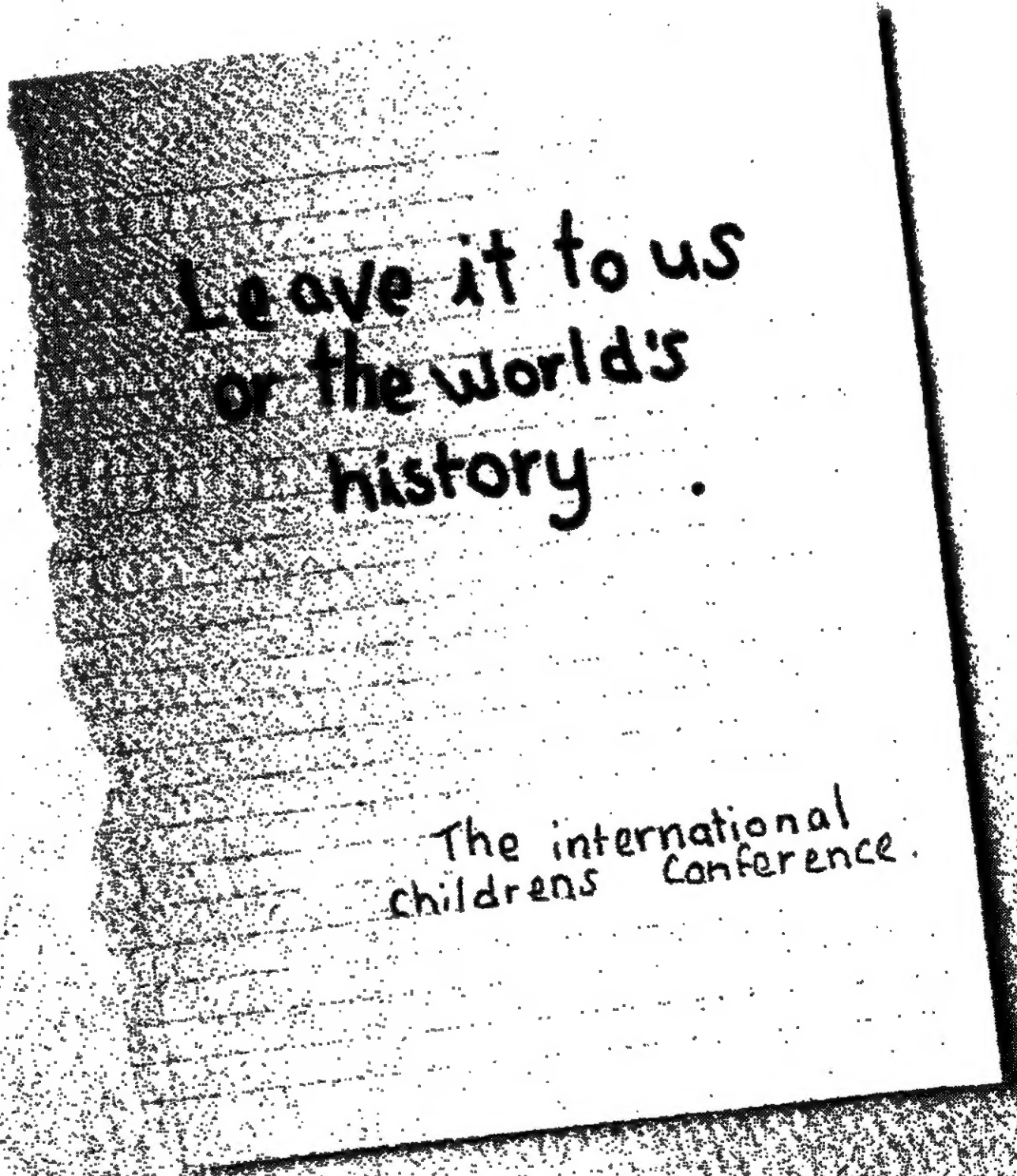
Mr Pettit said scanning machines and other electronic devices that were supposed to identify forgeries had proved unreliable. The policy of re-

jecting legal tender has caused confusion to some customers. Nigel Blackham, from Barnet, Hertfordshire, said he was astonished when his £50 note was refused at a pub in Witham, Essex. He said: "The barman had served the drinks and I slipped my beer before offering him the note. After saying the brewery wouldn't let him accept it he tried to take the drinks back. I had to get my wife to pay the £4.50 with her credit card. I could not believe it."

Bank of England officials are pressing ahead with a "know your banknotes" campaign to alert traders of the dangers they face.

Graham Kentfield, the bank's chief cashier, said: "Counterfeiting is a crime with too many victims. In almost every case the difference between genuine notes and counterfeit is obvious. If people did the simple checks we recommend they would not have lost money."

The £50 note first appeared in 1975 when only large denomination notes were printed. At today's values, it was worth £3,300. It was withdrawn during the Second World War because of the danger of German forgeries.



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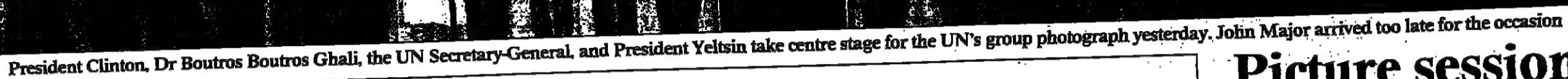
The future of the world could depend on how everyone responds to the recommendations of eight hundred children. These children are being brought to England from no fewer than 85 different countries for the first International Children's Conference on the Environment.

The event in Sandhurst (24th-25th October) is being sponsored by British Airways to give children

between the ages of 10 and 12 the opportunity to voice their concerns on a wide range of environmental issues from global warming to rainforests and the ozone layer.

Each of these children will be accompanied by a British Airways representative. The children will be staying at Sandhurst House, Sandhurst, Surrey, from 24th to 25th October. After all, when it comes to environmental issues, the children are the future.





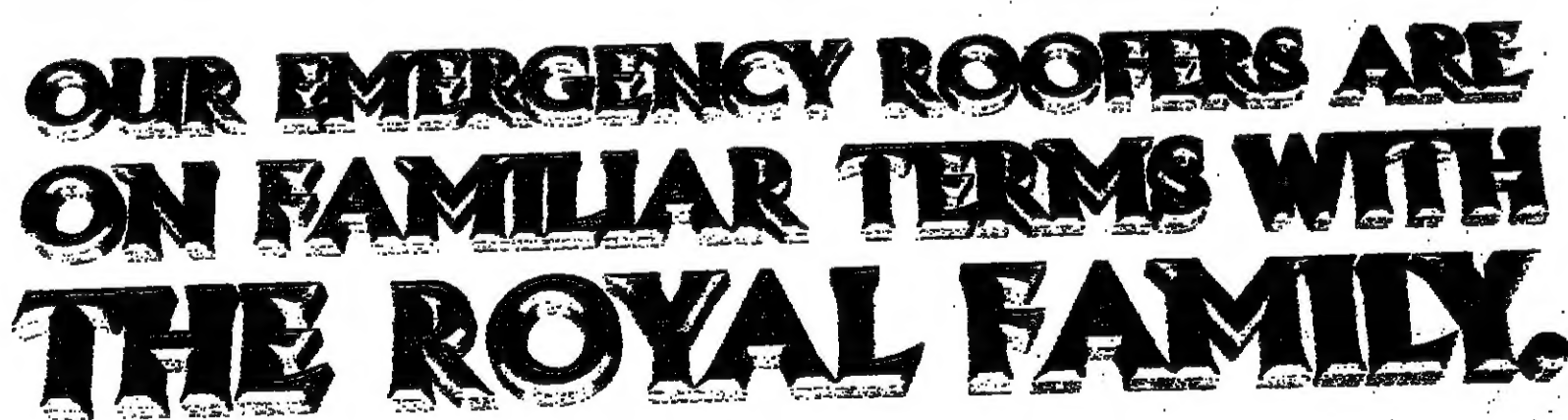
Picture session creates protocol nightmare at UN

**Arafat: stood out among
the throng of grey suits**

Banquet first course on route to future

Tuesday, October 24:

- ☐ President Clinton meets with Jiang Zemin, Chinese Prime Minister.
- ☐ President Izetbegovic of Bosnia among speakers to the General Assembly.
- ☐ Final declaration of world leaders on the future of the United Nations.



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هناك امن الاصل

Diplomatic falling-out and the strain of personality cults cast a shadow on global party

Meeting of French and Algerian leaders called off

FROM BEN MACINTYRE IN PARIS AND JAMES BONE IN NEW YORK

A BITTER diplomatic row marred the UN's 50th anniversary celebrations last night after a planned meeting between President Chirac of France and Algerian President Zeroual was cancelled at the last minute, just days after Islamic fundamentalists threatened to intensify their terrorist violence in France if it went ahead.

The Algerian Government said the talks were scrapped because French officials had made "slighting remarks" that could be interpreted as an affront to the dignity and sovereignty of the Algerian people.

These "malevolent" statements meant that "the meeting had lost its raison d'être," Mr Zeroual's spokesman said. "M Chirac, however, said the talks had been cancelled because Mr Zeroual had demanded television coverage to coincide with the first day of campaigning in the Algerian presidential election, while the French wanted a meeting behind closed doors."

The two leaders did meet for 10 to 15 minutes in the presence of the United Nations Secretary-General, however, after lining up for a photograph of world leaders. Although the meeting is unlikely to be rescheduled, M Chirac



and Mr Zeroual will have ample opportunity to meet privately since they are both staying in the same hotel.

In recent days M Chirac has strongly denied suggestions that the meeting would be seen as an endorsement of Mr Zeroual's election campaign.

The Algerian presidential spokesman said French officials had insulted his country by making comments that were "manifestly tendentious and sometimes extremely malevolent towards Algeria."

Laurent Fabius, head of the Socialist group in the French parliament, said that the Chirac-Zeroual meeting had "begun as a gift" and "ended in a snub". He added: "This is an example of what should not be done."

Last week an Arabic-language newspaper reported that the militant Armed Islamic Group (GIA), which has

claimed responsibility for the recent wave of terror attacks in France, had threatened to intensify its bombing campaign unless M Chirac cancelled the meeting, severed all economic and diplomatic links with the Algerian Government and publicly denounced the country's forthcoming elections.

Both Islamic and secular parties have boycotted the elections, which Mr Zeroual is expected to win.

Faced with the threat of intensified guerrilla violence, and mounting criticism at home, M Chirac may well be relieved that the talks have been abandoned.

However, the episode will further undermine confidence in his Government, already battered by some of the lowest popularity ratings in recent French history.

"M Chirac is humiliating France and making her look ridiculous," thundered Bruno Mégret of the National Front.

The planned meeting even sparked criticism from officials who complained that, as with his policy of resumed nuclear testing, M Chirac should not have given advance warning. Plans for the meeting were announced on October 10, giving the President's detractors nearly two weeks to mobilise against him.

Anticipating possible terrorist reprisals if the meeting went ahead, the French Government deployed 2,000 extra troops in Paris last weekend. Almost 32,000 soldiers, police and customs officials have now been mobilised throughout France in the massive anti-terrorist operation code-named "Vigilance".

France provided \$5 billion (£645 million) in financial aid to Algeria last year, and the GIA has pledged to continue its violent campaign until France discontinues support altogether.

In a recent bulletin the GIA threatened to bring "holy war" to the heart of France's biggest cities.



Yeltsin waves as he arrives at the UN in a trip he hopes will boost his standing

Yeltsin strives to rise above his clownish image

FROM THOMAS DE WAAL IN MOSCOW AND IAN BRODIE IN WASHINGTON

PRESIDENT Yeltsin was in high spirits yesterday as he appeared before the United Nations at the start of a visit to America that he hopes will bolster his standing before a world audience.

With a characteristic Yeltsin mixture of charm and brute force, the Russian leader bore down on the Boutros Boutros Ghali, the UN Secretary-General, and engulfed him in a bear hug.

Mr Yeltsin has given a series of aggressive press conferences and made tough statements on Nato and Bosnia recently, which suggest that he has privately taken the decision to stand again for the presidency when his term expires next June. His aides say he is in fighting form.

But his list of eccentric antics has started to lengthen and could still undermine his presidency. As he visits New York, he will remind many of Nikita Khrushchev, who in a famous incident at the UN banged his shoe on the table and seriously damaged his public image.

The President did very much the same a year ago when he was the guest of honour at a banquet given by the Queen in St Petersburg. The Queen had given a toast, announced by a toastmaster with a gavel. Asked to follow suit, the President growled "I don't have a hammer" and brought his fist crashing down on the table so hard the

cutlery jumped. In another incident in Berlin last year, Mr Yeltsin seized a baton from the conductor of a military band and started conducting himself. Last week the President pinched two Kremlin secretaries as he was striding into a press conference. The Russian media generally ignored the incident, although the newspaper *Izvestia* ran a photograph of it without comment.

These boisterous antics have alternated with even more damaging scenes. The President has often looked puffy, confused, in poor health and possibly drunk. In February, he was virtually carried into a Commonwealth of Independent States summit in Alma Ata.

In July, Mr Yeltsin had a minor heart attack and was out of the public eye for several weeks. After he emerged, he looked in good health.

Since then, he has started making efforts to recapture public approval. But last Thursday his judgement again came into question, when he criticised his Foreign Minister, Andrei Kozyrev, and then tried to retract. The Russian newspapers were quick to criticise his behaviour.

Izvestia said: "Who will take the minister seriously at home or abroad while the President — for several months — reflects on the candidature of his successor?"

Castro suits himself as it rains on his parade

NEW YORK NOTEBOOK

IN ONE respect, Fidel Castro's arrival yesterday was a big disappointment: he was wearing a dark, Western-style suit, not his trademark fatigues. However, Señor Castro still found time for a proletarian gesture. On reaching the building, he advanced on a humble security guard and shook his hand.

Señor Castro had arrived in those fatigues at Kennedy airport on Saturday, but perhaps realised that the guerrilla look was inappropriate. The fatigues were also

drenched at the rainswept airport, so were no doubt creased. That storm rained on a pro-Castro parade supported by a group of bespectacled, bearded marchers, and also on a knot of exiles who huddled outside the Cuban mission to yell at Señor Castro as he arrived by limousine.

A trip to the shops is probably unlikely for Señor Castro, but one item on his shopping list. He is rumoured

to have asked an aide to pick up Colin Powell's autobiography.

AT Mayor Rudolph Giuliani's gala dinner on Saturday — to which Señor Castro was pointedly not invited — waiters were given a crash course in protocol. Heads of state were first to be served, all at exactly the same time, lest offence be given.

Another who failed to make

the guest list was Yasser Arafat. The PLO leader responded by throwing a dinner of his own at a hotel across the street, starting at exactly the same hour.

GREECE'S President, Costas Stephanopoulos, decided to visit Queens, a New York borough with a big Greek community. The locals were underwhelmed. A housewife who had been introduced to the President was moments later asked by her teenage daughter: "Mom, what was

that guy's name again?" Mom, with utter certainty: "It was George." She may have been confusing him with the other Stephanopoulos who advises Bill Clinton.

JOHN MAJOR is staying at the UN Plaza Hotel, where facilities include an in-house masseuse, available round the clock. The manager has also hired a lift repair man, so if it breaks down Mr Major will not be stuck for long.

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Russian scientists help Iran's quest for nuclear power

By MICHAEL EVANS, DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT, AND ROGER BOYES

WESTERN pressure on China and Russia to stop providing Iran with nuclear technology and expertise has failed to stem Tehran's pursuit of nuclear weapons, according to the latest intelligence.

Iran's principal nuclear research facilities are run by Russian and Chinese scientists and engineers. Early next year 1,500 Russian specialists are expected to go to Iran to "bring on stream" the multi-billion-dollar power plant at Bushehr.

Of greatest concern to Western intelligence services are reports that Chinese experts have almost finished a uranium enrichment plant at the atomic centre at Karaj, a huge facility constructed under the guise of a medical and hospital complex, 100 miles from Tehran. Uranium enrichment is a vital element in the development of bomb-grade material for nuclear weapons.

Western intelligence services have been anxious to obtain corroborative evidence of Iran's reported purchase from China earlier this year of a calutron system, which uses electro-magnetism to enrich uranium.

According to Mohammad Moaddehin, of the National Council of Resistance of Iran,

the main opponents of the Tehran regime, China's agreement to deliver the calutron system was signed three years ago and the work is due to be completed "within a few months".

China announced this month that it was cancelling a contract to sell two nuclear reactors to Iran. Qian Qichen, China's Foreign Minister, said the deal had been suspended indefinitely.

Russia's sale of two 440-megawatt nuclear reactors for Bushehr is going ahead, however, and two more are expected to be installed at the Neka complex in Mazandaran.

Iran is believed to be determined to renegotiate the deal with China to supply two 300-megawatt reactors, also for Bushehr, but Western intelligence sources said they did not believe Peking would go ahead with the contract, mainly because of doubts over Iran's ability to pay for the reactors, which are estimated to cost between £500-£575 million.

Iran continues to insist that its nuclear programme is for civilian purposes, but claims by the National Council of Resistance of Iran of a comprehensive nuclear bomb programme have been confirmed

by Western intelligence. Earlier this year, a classified report to President Rafsanjani of Iran said to have boasted that the first stage of the production of a nuclear bomb had been completed, and praised Russian and Chinese scientists for their role.

Iran's plan to develop a nuclear weapons programme dates back to 1985, during the regime of the late Ayatollah Khomeini, and continued after his death in 1989.

There are now believed to be at least seven nuclear sites in Iran: Esfahan, in central Iran, part of which is built underground; Karaj, designed to withstand a military assault; Gorgan, near the Caspian Sea; Qazvin, northwest of Tehran; Bushehr, codenamed the Jerusalem project; Yazd, close to a uranium mine in central Iran; and Darkhovin, in southwest Iran, which is under the supervision of Chinese specialists.



Electors on the Tanzanian spice island of Zanzibar line up to cast their vote yesterday for a President and 50-member parliament. Pounding tropical rain helped to dispel the carnival atmosphere of

Zanzibar holds multiparty poll

the final rallies on Saturday, with voters subdued as they lined up for the first multiparty elections since indepen-

dence in 1963. Voters in Zanzibar and Pemba islands appeared to be heeding the advice of both major parties

to go to the polls without knives. All experts said the election was too close to predict. Polls for the union of the islands with the mainland as a whole will be held next Sunday. (AFP)

Pentagon ends bias towards minorities

FROM AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE IN WASHINGTON

THE Pentagon is to end positive discrimination in favour of ethnic minorities in awarding contracts, *The Washington Post* reported yesterday.

The newspaper said the Defence Department would announce today or tomorrow its decision to abolish the so-called "rule of two", in use since 1987. Under the terms of this rule, if at least two small firms owned by ethnic minorities bid for a Pentagon contract, the contract has to go to a minority-owned firm.

Last year the rule secured contracts worth \$1 billion (£637 million) for companies belonging to ethnic minorities.

The Washington Post said the Pentagon decision was the first move to change the system since the White House and Justice Department reviewed "affirmative action" under pressure from conservative groups. Affirmative action gave priority to minorities in jobs to cure imbalances caused by discrimination.

WORLD SUMMARY

Saudis hunt for bomber

AN INTENSIVE manhunt was under way in Saudi Arabia yesterday for the chief suspect in Friday's bomb attack on a crowded mosque in the western province of Asir, which killed seven worshippers, injured more than 100 and sent shockwaves through the country (Christopher Walker writes). The bombing of the mosque during weekly prayers at a village between Mecca and the border with Yemen came as the world's leading oil producer is coping with widespread discontent among Islamic fundamentalists and a soaring crime wave.

Fighting halts in northern Bosnia

Sarajevo: The guns fell silent across Bosnia yesterday as the warring sides finally stopped fighting in the northwest that had threatened to undermine the ten-day-old ceasefire.

"Quiet, quiet, quiet, quiet," said Major Miriam Sohacki, a United Nations spokeswoman, describing the military situation across Bosnia-Herzegovina. "No specific activity in the northwest." The Bosnian Serb Army confirmed in a statement that the ceasefire, the 37th since the war began, was holding. (Reuters)

Papandreou photo pledge

Athens: A once fanatical supporter of Andreas Papandreou, Greece's Socialist leader, says he will publish new compromising photographs of the Prime Minister's wife as part of his campaign to force them out of office (Malcolm Brabant writes). *Avriani*, a populist newspaper, has begun a countdown to what it calls "Mimi's end". George Kouris, the publisher, plans to print a picture of a naked Dimitra "Mimi" Papandreou, 40, a week today.

Poll highlights Berlin divisions

Berlin: Germany's Social Democrats fared badly and the Free Democrats lost all their seats in Berlin's assembly in voting yesterday, according to exit polls. The Christian Democrats were set to be the biggest party and the Party of Democratic Socialism highlighted the city's political split by advancing strongly in districts east of the former Berlin Wall. (Reuters)

Hostages seen

Delhi: At least two, and perhaps all four, of the Western hostages kidnapped in July by Kashmiri militants have been seen in populated areas of the Kashmir Valley, their captors having been driven from the hills by the first winter snow (Christopher Thomas writes).

Dole team accused of blackmail threat

FROM IAN BRODIE IN WASHINGTON

INCREASINGLY caustic exchanges have broken out between Robert Dole, the Republican Senate leader who is seeking his party's presidential nomination, and Arianna Stassinopoulis Huffington, the conservative activist. In the latest round, she has accused the Dole campaign of threatening to blackmail her.

Mrs Huffington, whose husband Michael spent \$30 million (£19 million) from his personal fortune in failing to win a Senate seat last year, has taken aim at Mr Dole in newspaper articles and on her cable television programme. Although he is the leading candidate in a field of ten Republican hopefuls, she portrays him as lacking either the drive or the message to win.

She first levelled her sights last month in *The Wall Street Journal*, where she warned Republicans that "the emperor has no clothes" — i.e. Bob Dole is not electable. She praised the leadership qualities of Colin Powell, the retired general, who is agonising over whether to run.

The article upset Mr Dole, who campaigned repeatedly for Mr Huffington last year. He wrote to Mrs Huffington, saying he agreed with her assessment that General Powell was an outstanding American, but added acidly: "One of the qualities that helps to make him so is the loyalty he has shown to those who assisted him along the way."

Unrepentant, Mrs Huffington returned to the fray on television, criticising Mr Dole's lacklustre performance during a candidates' debate in New Hampshire and suggesting that his wife, Elizabeth, was hedging her bets about his winning the nomination by delaying her promised resignation as president of the American Red Cross.

Mrs Huffington said yesterday that this provoked a threatening call from Scott Reed, the manager of the Dole campaign, who said that they had "a pile of information" on her and implied that they would use it. Mr Reed denied making any such warning or threat, and told *The Washington Post* that she was being "a little hysterical" about the call.

Last Thursday Mrs Huffington again attacked Mr Dole in *The Wall Street Journal*, saying he did not have a clue about the Republican revolution and calling on all who cared for it to oppose his nomination publicly.

□ Clinton gaffe: Republicans unveiled a new television commercial yesterday showing President Clinton's gaffe last week when he said he had raised taxes "too much" two years ago. Many of the Democrats who then voted for his \$258 billion tax increase were defeated when Republicans seized control of Congress in elections last November.

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RUGBY LEAGUE

27

England
to meet
Australia
in World
Cup final

FOOTBALL

29

Robson's
revolution
brings
new beat
to Boro

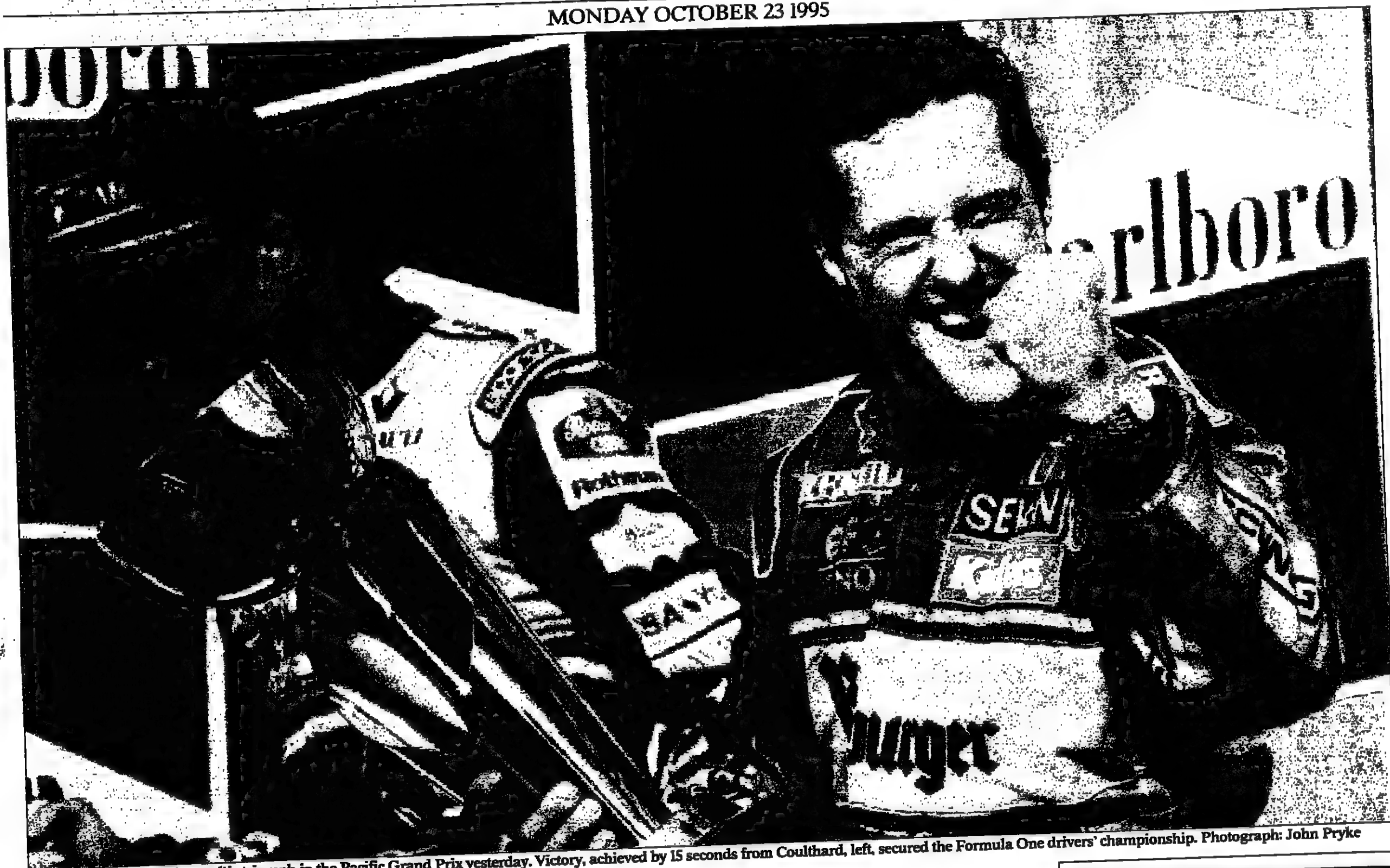
BASKETBALL

26

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TIMES SPORT

MONDAY OCTOBER 23 1995



Schumacher celebrates his triumph in the Pacific Grand Prix yesterday. Victory, achieved by 15 seconds from Coulthard, left, secured the Formula One drivers' championship. Photograph: John Pryke

German retains world title and stakes claim to greatness

Schumacher drives away doubts

FROM OLIVER HOLT
IN AIDA, JAPAN

THE sun set early on the race for the Formula One world motor racing championship in the quiet of the Japanese countryside yesterday. It fled behind the trees that tower over the track here, so that Damon Hill could see a last moon rising: Michael Schumacher, is champion for a second time, peerless and flawless in his domination to the extent that it is hard to see who will emerge to challenge him in the near future.

Schumacher seems to get better and better. Three races stretched out in front of him, from which he needed three points to retain the title. He needed only one, and just as in the European Grand Prix at the Nürburgring three weeks ago, he refused to play the percentage game. By winning the Pacific Grand Prix here, he ground his mastery into Hill's dejected features.

As Schumacher trundled around his slowing-down lap after taking the chequered flag, the other drivers lined up behind him in homage. When he got back to the pits, members of the Benetton team that he has lifted to such dizzy heights in his four years with them clustered around him to offer their congratulations and praise.

His retention of the title he won amid so much controversy

last year made him the youngest driver to have won two world championships, younger than Juan Manuel Fangio, Jim Clark, Jackie Stewart, Alain Prost or Ayrton Senna. Only five drivers — Fangio, Alberto Ascari, Jack Brabham, Prost and Senna — had previously won successive titles. If there were any doubts about Schumacher's fitness to rule, they have been banished.

He now has 18 victories to his name, four more than Graham Hill and only five fewer than Nelson Piquet, who took three world titles. He is still 26. Two more wins this year would take him beyond Nigel Mansell's record of nine in a season, and closer to his cherished goal: Prost's mark of 51 triumphs. Gradually, he is being stamped with the hallmark of true greatness.

His colleagues are united in their admiration. "He is the only one out there who makes a difference," Eddie Irvine, his team-mate at Ferrari next year, said. Even Hill, who launched a swinging attack on what he called Schumacher's "hypocrisy" after the race, was moved to speak in glowing terms of his nemesis.

"The fact of the matter is that he won the race again," Hill said. "I don't know how he does it. I respect him for that, and in order to win the world championship myself, I am going to have to try and emulate those feats. He is

very, very good. Clearly, he has an advantage over everybody else in the field at the moment."

The race on the toytown track here in the Oishi highlands was a microcosm of much of the season. Schumacher started behind the two Williams-Renaults, driven by Hill and David Coulthard, and gradually, inexorably, reined them in by dint of his own driving skills and the unrivalled efficiency of his team strategists and pit-lane crew.

There were no alarms, no breathtaking manoeuvres. It was simple and ruthless in its professionalism. He cut a

swath through backmarkers, giving no quarter. He won by nearly 15 seconds from Coulthard, with Hill a distant third, and is now 33 points ahead of the Englishman.

It felt better this time, too, Schumacher said. This was not a championship sullied by slurs about the legality of the car he drove, by controversies about pit-lane fires, or by the decisive collision with Hill in the last race of the season at Adelaide; nor tragedies like the death of Senna at Imola 18 months ago. It was famous, instead, for the enduring duel with Hill and the satisfaction of emerging the stronger.

"It was more straightforward this time," Schumacher said. "Last year was a bit of a mess, being out of the race at Adelaide and not knowing whether I had actually won it for a couple of minutes. This time, I knew I had won the championship and the race as I crossed the line. This championship is worth more because I had to fight very hard all the season through."

"I am still trying to take it all in. I feel a bit groggy and strange. I need to have some time to celebrate. But it is a beautiful feeling to be champion again, particularly because of the way I did it today, not just taking it easy but going out and winning the race."

The feud with Hill and their crashes during the British Grand Prix at Silverstone and the Italian Grand Prix at Monza diverted attention from the fact that Schumacher was edging away from his rival, but in the final stages of the battle his superiority became impossible to camouflage. When he came from sixteenth on the grid to win the Belgian Grand Prix at Spa in August, it seemed to break Hill's resolve and spur Schumacher on to greater things.

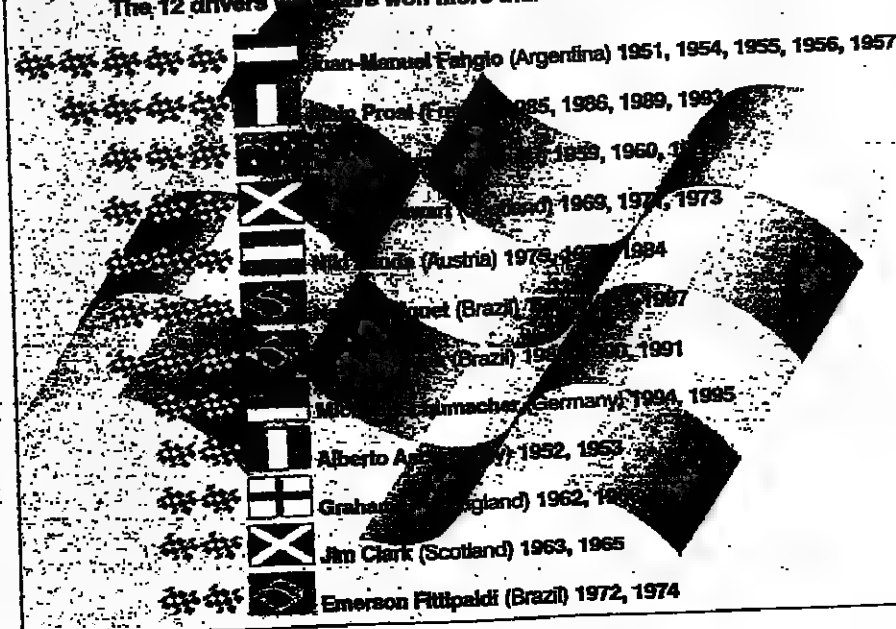
His hegemony seems under threat only from his own decisions. There are high hopes of Jacques Villeneuve, the young IndyCar champion who will partner Hill at Williams next year, but it would be unrealistic to expect him to win the title at the first attempt. The main hope for the German's rivals comes from his move to Ferrari, and the possibility that the deficiencies of their car — with its new V10 engine — might reduce his advantage.

But that is where those who see no romance or charisma in Schumacher miss the point. His talents are such that he has been able to force his Benetton-Renault to the front of the pack despite the generally held opinion that the Williams-Renault is the better car. The smart money is on him to work more alchemy next year, too. In this ability lies the essence of Schumacher's appeal.

In a sport in which talent can be disguised by the excellence of the equipment provided, the new double world champion represents the triumph of man over machines.

SCHUMACHER JOINS THE CHAMPIONS ELITE

The 12 drivers who have won more than one world championship



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Rugby league supporters given short shrift

The consensus is that the BBC's coverage of the rugby league World Cup has been inadequate. The question is — how inadequate? Die-hard supporters would say very, citing two damning facts. First, that by the time the full-time hooter goes at Wembley on Saturday, the corporation will have shown just four of the tournament's 15 matches, and second, that highlights of the qualifying rounds were confined to the BBC North region and to Wales.

For league supporters in the south, the first fortnight of the World Cup might as well not have happened — unless they were among the fortunate few connected to Live TV, the cable channel which enterprisingly picked up the unwanted rights to live coverage of the qualifying games.

Within the BBC, there is the quiet admission that it could have done better, particularly with late-night highlights. BBC North produced three excellent programmes, hosted by the personable Damian Johnson.

If the number of these programmes had been increased to take in action from each game on the day it was played, if the scope of the programme had been widened to taken in more of the bruising action from the Welsh group and if, most important of all, the programme had been broadcast nationwide... then the BBC might have been able to look back on a job well done. But that is a lot of ifs.

In its defence, however, the BBC could argue that the fact that the World Cup has failed



MATTHEW BOND
TV ACTION REPLAY

to capture the public interest is hardly its fault. It could point to the half-full Wembley stadium of a fortnight ago and the empty seats that were still visible this weekend at Old Trafford and Huddersfield. It could say it had reacted to the criticism meted out to ITV earlier this year for bothering with live coverage of some of the one-sided encounters from the qualifying rounds of the rugby union World Cup.

And if it really wanted to stir things up, it could justifiably

point out that, given the outcome, the first fortnight might just as very well not have happened. That just leaves the question of why it bothered buying the rights at all. Even the semi-finals received a somewhat half-hearted approach. Technically, it was fine, although the 14-camera set-up appeared a couple of cameras light. We had assorted slow-motion replays of Bobbie Goulding's two crucial kicks to Martin Offiah and, while they certainly

confirmed that the second should not have been a try (Offiah bounced the ball rather than applied downward pressure), none of them could determine whether Offiah was offside for the first.

As for the commentary, there will be those who like Ray French's barnstorming approach and those who loathe it. I don't have a problem with it, particularly now that the commentary has developed into a three-way conversation between French, Joe Lydon and a guest.

On Saturday, the third seat was taken by Terry Flanagan and yesterday by Steve Simms, both of whom showed an admirable enthusiasm for controversy, with Flanagan quick to spot Offiah's fumble and Simms first to note the frequent incursions on to the

playing field by the Australian trainers. With Richard Duckenfield interviewing anything that moved on the touchline, French should have been hard-pressed to get a word in edgewise. But, as ever, he managed.

Time and again, however, the contrast with the BBC's red-carpet coverage of rugby union was all too apparent. England v Wales at Twickenham would have merited Steve Rider at the ground and an assortment of past captains to discuss the play at half-time. Instead we got Dougie Donnelly in the Grandstand studio, the football reports at half-time and a strange close-up of the injured Shaun Edwards looking rather bored. No doubt the final will get the full works, but by then it will be three weeks too late.

Doncaster continue to exercise jinx

THE most curious record of the Budweiser basketball league season so far must belong to Doncaster Panthers whose only two wins have come at the expense of Worthing Bears, who are otherwise unbeaten (Nicholas Harling writes).

Doncaster's 106-96 victory in overtime on the South Coast came with the help of 28 points from Doug Ezler, their new American guard. Ezler's first seven points in overtime gave his side a lead that was too much even for Colin Irish to pull back. The Worthing player-coach collected 35 including the last basket that forced the extra five minutes. The 25 points from Alan Cummings also proved in vain.

Manchester Giants scored the first 15 points of the match yesterday at Hemel Hempstead but only prevailed 88-82 by surviving a 19-6 final-quarter burst from the Royals, who were without Jason Siemon. Alex Beason was the Giant's top scorer for the first time since joining them by scoring 19 points.

Basketball's advance, page 26

Whitaker back on song

EQUESTRIANISM: Michael Whitaker enjoyed a welcome upturn in fortunes when riding Let's Go II, a 13-year old gelding acquired just six weeks ago, to victory in the Derby at the Monterey show. Designed by Pamela Carruthers, the 1100-metre course proved testing for horse and rider alike, with the majority of errors occurring towards the end of the rounds. Nick Skelton, drawn fourth, had given Everest Sublime an excellent ride until the second from home, fence 15, when the faintest of raps brought down a pole for four faults. However, his fast time was sufficient to earn seventh place overall.

Hugo Simon, of Austria, also with four faults, had led the field until the halfway point when he was overhauled by the first clear round of the competition from Alexandra Ledermann, of France. Their lead was short-lived as they were overtaken two riders later by Jose Madariaga, of Mexico, and then by Whitaker.

De Lorenzi ahead

GOLF: Fifth place for Marie-Laure de Lorenzi, right, in the Spanish Open women's tournament at La Manga Club took her more than one hundred points clear of her closest rival, Laura Davies, at the top of the Solheim Cup standings. The Australian, Rachel Hume, shot a closing round of 68 on Saturday to clinch her second title of the season. Britain's Lisa Hackney finished third to record her best placing in Europe.



Stanhope fastest home

ROWING: Richard Stanhope, a former international, was the fastest competitor in the Marlow Sculls on Saturday. He was followed home by Rob Clegg, the new Oxford University Boat Club president. Clegg was ably backed by other university performers and the Boat Race hopefuls won the day's team prize. Putney Town RC and the Capital Rowing Centre, whose previous premises burnt down in 1992, saw three years of effort come to fruition on Saturday with the opening of their new boathouse at Chiswick Bridge.

MacDonald strikes

HOCKEY: Sue MacDonald, the Glasgow Western striker, scored a goal in each half to secure Great Britain a 3-1 win over Spain in Madrid yesterday and complete a 2-1 series victory. Great Britain were beaten 2-1 in their first match but responded to the demand for improvement by their manager, Jenny Cardwell, with a 3-0 victory on Saturday over the Olympic champions. They continued in the same vein yesterday. Jane Simms scored Great Britain's first goal in the fifth minute.

Jets achieve lift-off

ICE HOCKEY: Slough Jets are coming to grips with life in the premier division of the British League, and they won their second successive game 7-6 against Newcastle Warriors (Norman De Mesquita writes). Nottingham Panthers and Sheffield Steelers retained unbeaten records with wins over Durham Wasps and Cardiff Devils, but Basingstoke Bison suffered their first loss, beaten 9-3 by Effe Flyers. Manchester Storm's victory against Medway Bears was their sixth in as many outings.

Edberg triumphs

TENNIS: Stefan Edberg, of Sweden, right, won his first tournament in nearly ten months when he beat Andrea Gaudenzi, of Italy, 6-3, 6-1, 7-6 in the final of the Hong Kong Championships yesterday. The 29-year-old Swede, who admitted earlier this week he was no longer at the top, played some of his best tennis to pick up the \$20,000 prize. The former world No 1 last won in Qatar in early January.



Douce back on track

CYCLING: Steve Douce, Britain's most consistent cyclo-cross champion for the last decade, had reason to be happy with his return to competition yesterday even though he did not win the opening round of the national trophy series at Maryon Wilson Park, Charlton, in southeast London. He finished fifth to mountain bike specialist Tim Gould in the 16.5-mile event, two minutes 22 seconds in arrears, clearly showing that the serious injuries he received in a near-fatal crash in a race last May are still a problem.

Angry Hill fuels Pacific war of words

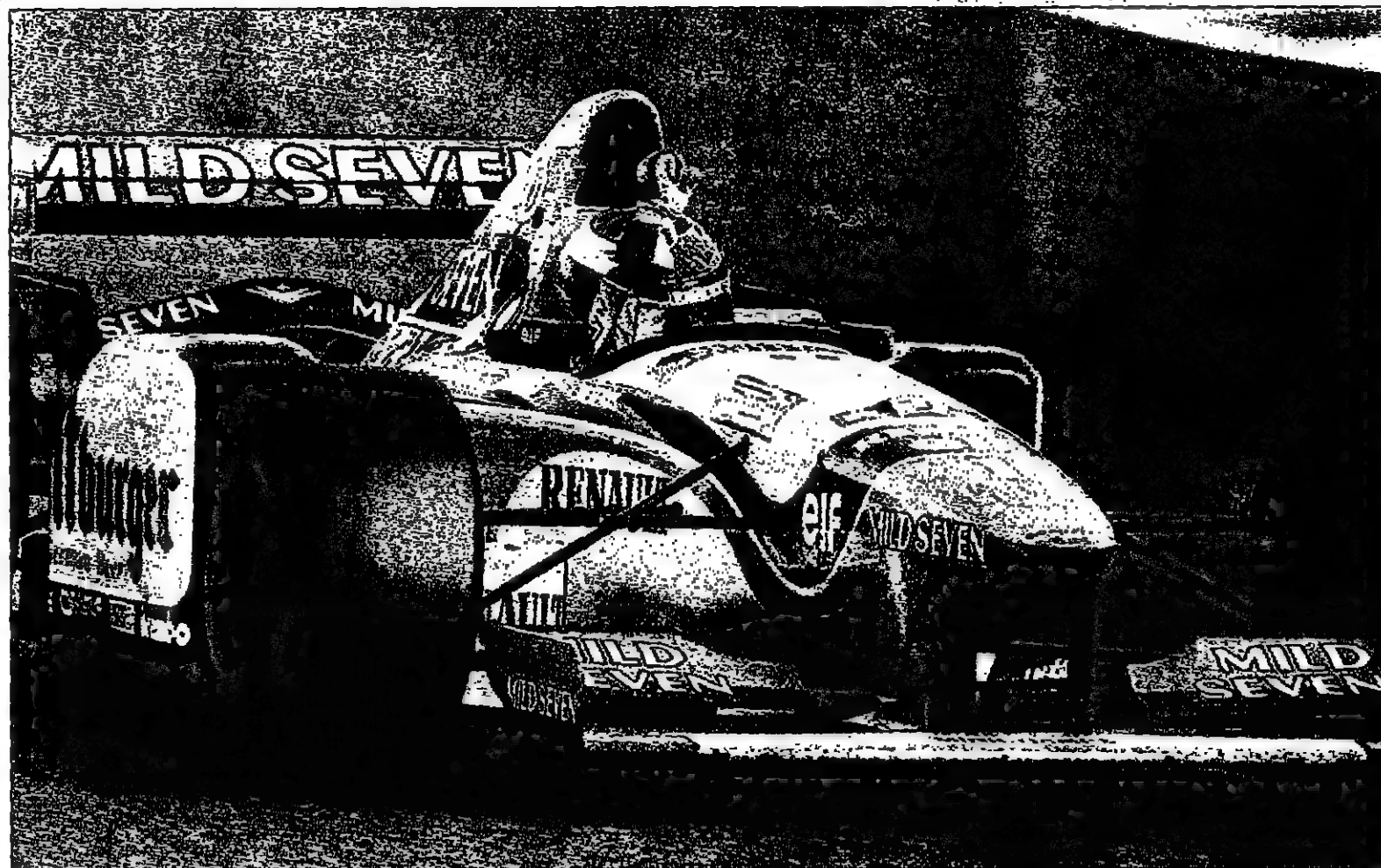
FROM OLIVER HOLT
IN AIDA, JAPAN

HE WON at a canter, coasting to a victory he did not need and launching himself into the arms of his adoring team. Then they began the party in the little shed that passed for a motorhome to celebrate Michael Schumacher's capture of the Formula One world drivers' championship for the second year in succession.

In the next hut, Damon Hill shut himself away and tortured himself by watching a rerun of the Pacific Grand Prix that had finally paid to his own chances of the title. It was so tense that someone tried to introduce a little levity by standing outside and holding the palms of their hands out towards the shed, pretending to warm them on the white heat of Hill's frustration.

By then, Hill had already spoken bitterly about complaints Schumacher had voiced over his driving during the race. The Englishman went wide at the first corner and nearly pushed Schumacher on to the grass as he blocked his overtaking manoeuvre. The German considered that Hill had overstepped the boundaries; Hill thought he had a check.

After the television interviews had finished, Hill jabbed his finger at Schumacher as he was making his point. When he emerged into the post-race press conference, he interrupted Schumacher's sanitised version of events by saying: "Why don't you tell them what you just told me." When Schumacher demurred, Hill filled in the blanks. "He was not happy with what I did a couple of times during the race," Hill said. "I find that extraordinary. We are free to do what we like as long as it is not deliberately dangerous. I drove in that style and he did not like it. We are allowed to do that now so he should have no complaints."



Schumacher clenches his fist as he crosses the line to win in Japan yesterday and become the youngest driver to claim successive titles

"I do not see how he could possibly object considering what has passed between us this season. I find it incredible. Total hypocrisy. I do not want to sound sour but he should not have complained. He seems to think there is one rule for him and another for everybody else."

"But I do want to congratulate Michael. It has been a very tough fight this year and I am truly respectful of his ability as a driver. He has shown on numerous occasions he has extraordinary talent and speed. I will never give up

my own fight to become world champion but this year it just seemed to slip through my fingers. Now, the inevitable has finally come to pass."

Hill had started the race from second place on the grid, behind his team-mate, David Coulthard, who began from his fourth consecutive pole position. But as Coulthard got away cleanly, Hill drifted to his left to block Schumacher's Benetton-Renault, and allowed the Ferraris of Jean Alesi and Gerhard Berger through on the inside.

Schumacher, also angry

about what he hinted might have been a "brake test" by Hill later in the race, felt that the move spoiled the race because it allowed Alesi, in particular, to hold Hill up and contribute to the ending of his chances. Nevertheless, the decisive blow was dealt the Englishman in the pits at the end of the twentieth lap, when he came in to change tyres and refuel at the same time as Schumacher and Alesi.

Benetton realised the necessity of getting Schumacher in front of the other two and produced a lightning-quick stop. Even though Hill had come in ahead, his pit crew dawdled by comparison and he left the pit lane last of the three. He had another alarm when he slid harmlessly into the back of Eddie Irvine's Jordan-Peugeot on the 24th lap, and was never really in contention from then onwards. He finished more than 48 seconds behind the wonderkid in what became a largely featureless contest.

Coulthard had a handsome lead at that stage but his decision to switch from a three-stop strategy cost him

dearly. His heavier fuel load kept him stuck behind uncooperative, slower traffic, particularly the Sauber-Ford of Heinz-Harald Frentzen, and allowed Schumacher to eat into his lead. When Schumacher made his third stop, he came out just in front of the young Scot, and the race was over.

So the championship had ended true to the theme of the season, garlanded by an argument between its two protagonists and with Schumacher in peerless form, backed up by an astute team strategy. Hill now faces a battle to avoid the

embarrassment of finishing behind Coulthard in the championship, a fate that would cast more gloom on a Williams team already reeling its loss of the young Scot to McLaren next year.

All that is left for them now is the fight for the constructors' title, and that will be an uphill struggle. Benetton lead Williams by 21 points with the Japanese and Australian grands prix to go. It is something they feel they must achieve this year. Schumacher will have left for Ferrari in three weeks and Benetton may never see his like again.

ANDA DETAILS

RESULTS 100 laps (160 km): 1. M Schumacher (Ger) Benetton 1hr 46min 49.972sec (av speed 105.281mph). 2. D Coulthard (GB) Williams 1hr 48.030sec behind. 3. D Hill (GB) Williams 48.030sec behind. 4. J Alesi (Fra) Ferrari 1 lap behind. 5. J Berger (Aus) Ferrari 1 lap behind. 6. J Herbert (GB) Benetton 1 lap behind. 7. H-H Frentzen (Ger) Sauber 1 lap behind. 8. O Badoer (Ita) Ligier 2 laps behind. 9. M Brundle (GB) McLaren 2 laps behind. 10. J Magnussen (Den) McLaren 2 laps behind. 11. E Irvine (GB) Jordan 2 laps behind. 12. M Salo (Fin) Tyrrell 3 laps behind. 13. P Lamy (Por) Minardi 3 laps behind. 14. U Kossmann (Ger) Tyrrell 3 laps behind. 15. R Barrero (Arg) Forti 3 laps behind. 17. P Dini (Ita) Forti 3 laps behind.

CHAMPIONSHIP POSITIONS (after 15 races): Drivers: 1. Schumacher (20pts); 2. Hill (16); 3. Coulthard (14); 4. Alesi (12); 5. Berger (11); 6. Frentzen (10); 7. Frentzen (9); 8. Frentzen (8); 9. Frentzen (7); 10. Frentzen (6); 11. Frentzen (5); 12. Frentzen (4); 13. Frentzen (3); 14. Frentzen (2); 15. Frentzen (1). Constructors: 1. Benetton (22pts); 2. Williams (19); 3. Ferrari (18); 4. McLaren (17); 5. Jordan (16); 6. Tyrrell (15); 7. Ligier (14); 8. Sauber (13); 9. Minardi (12); 10. Forti (11); 11. Minardi (10); 12. Minardi (9); 13. Minardi (8); 14. Minardi (7); 15. Minardi (6).

REMAINING GRANDS PRIX: Oct 28: Japan; Nov 3: Australia; Nov 12: Brazil; Nov 19: Portugal; Nov 26: Spain; Dec 3: Monaco; Dec 10: Belgium; Dec 17: Italy; Dec 24: France; Dec 31: USA.

Seven-goal Reading set the pace

BY SYDNEY FRISKIN

AFTER a match of high quality, Old Loughtonians emerged 2-1 home winners over Cannock yesterday, but Reading's 7-2 defeat of Barford Tigers put them on top of the men's National Hockey League on goal difference.

Success for Old Loughtonians was based on the superb combination up front between Thompson and Krishnan and the stabilising of the defence by Halls.

Old Loughtonians went in front after 18 minutes when Morrison converted a short

corner, but most of the drama was packed into the last ten minutes. Thompson increased the home side's lead, but a minute later they conceded a penalty stroke which Edwards converted.

Howard Hoskin and Keovil scored two goals apiece for Reading, with their other goals coming from Ashdown, Villar, and Osborn from a short corner. Dharminder Singh and Tarsen Johal replied for Barford.

In another high scoring match East Grinstead beat

Canterbury 5-3. Gibson scoring a hat-trick and Stuart Head chipping in with a double. Laxeter, Hacker and Matthews scored for Canterbury.

Guildford again got the better of Teddington with a 4-2 home victory. Jennings scored twice for the home side, once from a short corner, with Powell and Williams adding to the score. Reesby and Way, from a short corner, got the goals for Teddington.

Results, page 34.

Slick Fernandez spoils Coetzer's party plans

BY ALIX RAMSAY

IT WAS hardly the dream final George Hendon had in mind to mark the end of the eighteenth and last Brighton International tennis tournament and it was hardly the birthday celebration Amanda Coetzer had in mind to mark the start of her 25th year, as she was beaten 6-4, 7-5 by Mary Joe Fernandez. Yet, for Fernandez the end of the Brighton era marks, she hopes, the beginning of an upturn in her fortunes. After a lifetime of struggling against a respiratory problem, the root cause, a type of asthma, has now been identified and is being kept under control

with medication. And after a year dogged by illness — she was forced to miss the previous two tournaments through recurrence of the problem and only came to Brighton as a last-minute wild card entry — she feels fit and healthy and is looking forward to 1996. "I guess I appreciate what I do more now," she said. "Before, when I kept getting sick, I thought I wouldn't be playing much longer. I had my big breakthrough in '93 and then went backwards for a while, so I still feel my best years are ahead of me."

Yesterday, against the diminutive Coetzer, Fernandez had to be smart as well as fit to earn her £50,000 winners

cheque. Both are counterpunchers from the back court with neither player fond of taking the initiative. But she was able to keep Coetzer guessing with a string of drop shots and the occasional all-foray to the net which may not quite have been the stuff of former finals — in the days of Navratilova, of Evet and Graf — but it was enough.

With 14 service breaks in the 22 games, holding serve became something of a novelty as Fernandez built up a 4-1 lead in the first set before becoming bogged down in a grim battle. Just when it looked as if Coetzer was becoming her own worst enemy, Fernandez would throw away a couple

of points and the outcome was back in the balance. "She never allowed me to get into position but no, it hasn't ruined my birthday," Coetzer said.

Certainly the £23,000 she took away with her will have come as some compensation. As for George Hendon, tournament director, he was presented with yet another framed painting of "Brighton." He announced: "The road to Brighton has been a long and a happy one for us." Unfortunately, top players and sponsors have been failing to make that journey — which brought about the death of the tournament.

Photograph, page 34

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BOMBAY-ARABDABAD Flight No. IC 603 17:50h-18:45h

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to day city tour

DELHI-LAHORE Flight No. PK771 18:00h - 18:45h

LAHORE-PESHAWAR Flight No. PK 410 20:30h - 21:15h

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Friday 16th February At leisure in centre for local tour; Golf etc

Saturday 17th February Hotel Crown, Peshawar (8 nights)

Sunday 18th February ENGLAND - UAE - PESHAWAR

Transfer to match ground v.v.

Monday 19th February Excursion to Khyber Pass

Tuesday 20th February SOUTH AFRICA - NEW ZEALAND - FAIRABAD

Coverage of match via TV at hotel

Wednesday 21st February At leisure in centre for Tour; Golf or possible visit to the Durra Gun Factory

Thursday 22nd February ENGLAND - HOLLAND - PESHAWAR

Transfer to match ground v.v.

Friday 23rd February Private coach transfer PESHAWAR/RAWLPINDI

Hotel Crown

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Joyful scenes at St Andrews as Zimbabwe are overcome in Dunhill Cup final

Flag-waving Coltart leads Scotland home

By JOHN HOPKINS
GOLF CORRESPONDENT

COLIN MONTGOMERIE and Sam Torrance, who will pursue their individual challenges to become the leading player in Europe in Spain later this week, were united yesterday by Scotland's passionate success in winning the Alfred Dunhill Cup at St Andrews for the first time. Monty, 32, and Torrance, 42, and particularly Andrew Coltart, 25, combined to beat Zimbabwe 2-1 on a grey, damp afternoon over the Old Course amid scenes of rare excitement.

As this medal-match play competition came to its conclusion, Coltart stood at the top of the steps leading up from the 18th green with a flag bearing the cross of St Andrew's stretched high above his head. Well might the young hero indulge in such overt exuberance. He had played outstanding golf over the first two days — ten under par for 36 holes and capped the week of his life by going around the Old Course in 67, including a hole in one at the 8th, in the final.

First, Torrance, with tears welling in his eyes, strode the stone steps to embrace Coltart. Later he would say that his feelings at that moment were very similar to the moments of victory in the Ryder Cup — "except we get paid for this," he joked. Then came Monty, his face wreathed in smiles and hands outstretched. "Well done, mate," he said to his young colleague.

Nothing the Scots said to one another could exceed the generous tributes paid to them by Tony Johnstone, Mark McNulty and Nick Price, the victorious Zimbabweans. "To finish second to Scotland at the home of golf is no disgrace," Johnstone, who had been outscored 67-71 by Coltart, said. Price, who beat Monty 68-74 and as well as being undefeated in his five matches beat the previous record aggregate by five strokes, added, equally generously: "Hats off to the Scottish guys. They are something special."

Twice before Scotland have reached the final of this competition and lost. All Scotland wanted a victory this time and, after two months in which the Walker and Ryder Cups were wrested away from the Americans somewhat against the odds, there was a chance that the third time might prove



Coltart, left, Torrance, holding trophy, and Montgomerie pose with the Dunhill Cup after yesterday's emotional success at the home of golf. Photograph: Ian Stewart

lucky for the home team. The £100,000 each that Coltart, Torrance and Montgomerie took home will enhance their bank balances but their hearts will have been warmed by the feat of winning the competition that has been played at the home of golf since its inception in 1985.

Each Scot won four matches out of five. Coltart was nine under par, Torrance five under and Montgomerie four under. Coltart was never in real danger against Johnstone from the moment he holed out with a six-iron on the 8th. Torrance pulled away from McNulty by birdying the 12th and then moving a further stroke clear when McNulty bogied the 15th. Torrance eventually won 68-70.

Only Montgomerie was un-

able to cope with his opponent and, since it was Price, who was ranked third in the world, it is not surprising. Perhaps it was the pain in Montgomerie's left wrist, about which he will see a consultant today, that made him push his second shot out into the whins on the 5th, run up a seven and allow Price to move three strokes clear.

At 3.40 in the afternoon, a band struck up *Flower of Scotland* near the British Golf Museum behind the Royal and Ancient golf clubhouse. They were practising but, as the competition was far from over, there were some lugubrious, pessimistic Scots who thought this was a brazen attempt to cheer up the Scots. Coltart and Torrance had handsome leads with only a few holes remaining. It turned

out to be nothing of the sort. Moments later, Coltart was acknowledging the applause from spectators lined down the right of the first hole, up the side of the 18th and from the behind the most famous green in golf as well.

That was Scotland's first point of the match. Then Torrance hit a deft pitch and run through the Valley of Sin and two-putted to ensure the vital second point. It did not matter now that Montgomerie was waiting to play to the green back down the fairway and down in his match; nor that Price would execute a pitch and run even more delicate and accurate than Torrance's and hole for a three, his fourth birdie of the round. The Cup and the day already belonged to Scotland.

DETAILS

GROUP ONE: United States 1				
Canada 2 (United States names first), P. Jacobson 71 lost to R. Stewart 71 at 18th; L. Jansen 73 lost to R. Gibson 72; B. Oerter 68 lost to D. Barr 72; Sweden 1 Ireland 2				
(Sweden names first): J. Sandelin 67 lost to D. Clark 70; J. Parnvik 72 lost to P. Walton 72 at 19th; P.-U. Johansson 71 lost to R. Rafferty 68				
	PW	LG	SH	Pts
Ireland	3	3	0	7 635
Sweden	3	1	2	5 633
Canada	3	1	2	3 653
United States	3	1	2	3 635

GROUP TWO: Scotland 2 South Africa 1 (Scotland names first): A. Coltart 75 lost to E. Els 70; S. Torrance 68 bt R. Goosen 70; C. Montgomerie 69 bt D. Frost 71; Germany 2 Taiwan 1 (Germany names first): S. Struer 68 bt Chung Chun-Hsing 75; H. P. Thiel 77 bt W. Wen-Teh 76; A. Calka 70 lost to

	PW	LG	Sh	Pts	
Scotland	3	3	0	835	3
South Africa	3	2	1	638	2
Germany	3	1	2	649	1
Taiwan	3	0	3	679	0

GROUP THREE: Wales 2 Japan 1
(Wales names first): I. Woodman 72 lost to H. Kase 73; M. Moulden 71 lost to T. Watanabe 70; P. Atcock 69 lost to N. Setzawa 71; Zimbabwe 3 New Zealand 0 (Zimbabwe names first): T. Johnstone 73 lost to G. Turner 74; N. Price 68 lost to F. Nobilo 71; M. McNulty 70 lost to M. Campbell 72

	PW	LG	Sh	Pts
Zimbabwe	3	0	3	627
Wales	3	2	1	630
New Zealand	3	1	2	644
Japan	3	0	3	640

	PW	LG	SH	Pts
Zimbabwe	3	3	0	627
Wales	3	2	1	639
New Zealand	3	1	2	644
Japan	3	0	3	649

GROUP FOUR: Argentina 1 Spain 2
(Argentina names first): V Fernandez 68 bt M A Jimenez 74; E Romero 72 lost to J Rivero 70; J

Australia 0 England 3 (Australia names first): S. Elkington 73 lost to B. Lane 72; G. Norman 69 lost to M. James 68; C. Parry 70 lost to H. Clark 68	PW	LG	SH	Pts
Spain 3	2	1	5	645
Australia 3	2	1	4	655
England 3	1	2	5	655
Argentina 3	1	2	4	643
(Spain qualify on more individual games won)				

Clark 72; S Torrance 74 lost to R Rafferty 73; Zimbabwe 2 Spain 1 (Zimbabwe names first): T Johnstone 71 lost to M Jimenez 70; N Price 69 bt J Rivero 70; M McNulty bt I Garrido disc.

FINAL: Scotland 2 Zimbabwe 1 (Scotland names first): A Coltart 67 bt T Johnstone 71; S Torrance 68 bt M McNulty 70; C Montgomerie 74 lost to

FINAL: Scotland 2 Zimbabwe 1 (Scotland names first): A. Coltart 69 lost to T. Johnstone 71; S. Torrance 69 lost to M. McNulty 70; C. Montgomerie 74 lost to M. Price 68

Cronje and McMillan plot fall of Zimbabwe

ZIMBABWE sustained two heavy defeats in one-day international cricket matches against South Africa in Harare at the weekend, losing by 112 runs yesterday and 134 runs on Saturday.

Although Heath Streak took three early wickets yesterday, South Africa recovered to score 239. Zimbabwe made only 127 in reply with Hansie Cronje, the South Africa captain, taking four for 33 with his medium-pace bowling.

South Africa were 28 for three after Streak removed Dave Richardson, Gerhardus Liebenberg and Rudolph Steyn. But Adrian Kruger and Jonty Rhodes repaired the innings with half-centuries and Pat Symcox struck 35 from 42 balls at the end. The total looked below average on an even surface but the Zimbabwe batsmen were uncomfortable against a relentlessly accurate seam attack. Zimbabwe collapsed to 55 for five and the match quickly ended.

On Saturday, Brian McMillan hit a century to lead South Africa to their biggest margin of victory in a one-day match. Their total of 303 for five was their second-highest.

McMillan made 127, a career best in limited-overs matches, from 122 balls, hitting 14 fours and three sixes. Only Dave Callaghan, with 169 not out against New Zealand in 1994, has made a bigger score for South Africa in one-day internationals.

In front of a record crowd of 12,000, Zimbabwe were soon in trouble at 68 for six and, although Alistair Campbell halted the slide with an unbeaten 67, the home side finished beaten on 169 for seven in their 50 overs.

Cl Australia won the inaugural indoor World Cup in Birmingham yesterday, beating New Zealand 130-61 in a one-sided final. The favourites won all seven of their matches during the competition. England took third place by beating South Africa 118-46.

Malcolm enjoys dual role but gets his priority right

FROM MICHAEL HENDERSON IN JOHANNESBURG

IT IS not often given to a sportsman to be a standard-bearer, particularly when he is a foreigner and far from home, but Devon Malcolm in South Africa is a special case. Malcolm's significance as the only black cricketer on either side in the forthcoming Test series is lost on nobody here, least of all the South Africans, and the Derbyshire fast bowler is rehearsing a public role no cricketer before him has been asked to play.

Whether or not he is properly match fit he will play in the opening first-class fixture of the tour, the four-day game against the Invitational XI which begins in Soweto on Friday. Given the nature of the occasion, England are duty-bound to select him although

the diplomatic niceties should end there. Otherwise Malcolm runs the risk of becoming a goodwill envoy rather than a cricketer.

Malcolm is aware of his special position as unofficial ambassador for black cricketers but he is concentrating more on his primary task — to confound South African batsmen with his speed. After talking to young boys in the Alexandra township on Saturday, when England participated in another diplomatic venture, he reminded them that his reason for being there was not to act as a role model for underprivileged blacks but to send their country's best batsmen packing.

South Africans need little reminding of his ability. The

last time the teams met, at the Oval in August 1994, Malcolm's nine for 57 on that never-to-be-forgotten Saturday bowled England to a famous victory and squared the three-Test series. The South African batting order is not written in stone and some players may find the memory of that match unsettling.

Malcolm, by no means an automatic choice himself, is keen to assert himself at the head of the bowlers on the fast — or fastish — pitches on which England expect to play in the first three Tests at Pretoria, Johannesburg and Durban. When Michael Atherton was asked by locals to assess the power of the South African attack he preferred to stress the pace of the bowlers he could call on and, being the fastest, Malcolm will not lack opportunity.

"I hope that everything goes right in the preparations leading up to the first Test," Malcolm, who is approaching full fitness after a knee cartilage operation in August, said. "Although I feel good I have to build up gradually. I don't want to be blazing from the first ball in the nets."

For all his importance to the team in a series that will revolve largely around fast bowlers and how batsmen on both sides play them, Malcolm knows that England have overlooked him in the past. "I would like some support from the manager and captain," he said.

He went on: "I am extremely dangerous on quick, bouncy pitches but I can also bowl well on less pacy ones. Last winter, the pitch I did the most damage on was Adelaide, which is meant to be the best batting pitch in Australia. I don't want to think that if I don't bowl the other team out, or take ten wickets in the match, then I will be dropped for the next match."

As for his new celebrity status, Malcolm does not promise more than he can deliver: "I am aware of it and I will try my best to encourage the young people here."

Pakistan recall for Salim Malik

By SIMON WILDS

SALIM MALIK, having been cleared of attempted match-fixing by a Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) inquiry, has been selected for his country's tour of Australia and New Zealand.

Australia is the home of his accusers, so a potentially inflammatory three-match Test series between the countries — which opens in Brisbane on November 9 — is in prospect. The Australian Cricket Board (ACB) was quick yesterday to say that it had no objection to Malik's selection and expressed the hope that the media would concentrate on the cricket.

The inquiry was destined to run aground once the Australian players at the centre of the allegations, Tim May and Shane Warne, refused to travel to Pakistan to provide testimony. The ACB had offered to produce the two players once the Pakistanis reached Australia, but the offer was rejected by the inquiry.

Malik's recall is nevertheless a surprise. He has rarely played since his dismissal as Pakistan captain in March and Arif Ali Abbasi, the principal chief executive of the PCB, had indicated that there were reasons beyond allegations of attempted bribery for Malik's absence.

Such talk is forgotten now. Without Malik's leadership or runs, Pakistan began losing regularly, not least to Sri Lanka, causing an outcry at home. Neither Moin Khan nor Ramiz Raja shone as captain. Prospects of a successful defence of the World Cup began to look bleak.

Wasim Akram was named yesterday as captain of the party. It will be his second spell in command, the first having ended in a revolt by the players two years ago, which led to Malik's emergence.

Malik's return will not be made easier by the presence in the party of Basit Ali and Rashid Latif, who walked out of a tour of southern Africa led

by Malik earlier this year and whom he later threatened with legal action. Also back in favour, as team manager, is Intikhab Alam who takes over from Mushtaq Mohammad.

The Pakistanis leave for Australia tomorrow and play their first match against an ACB Chairman's XI near Perth on Thursday. Warne will be among the opposition but Malik will miss this opportunity, long awaited, to "confront his accusers". He was due to travel four days after the main party.

PAKISTAN PARTY: Wasim Akram (captain), Aamir Nazeer, Aamir Sohail, Aqib Javed, Ahsan-Ul-Haque, Basit Ali, Inzamam-ul-Haq, Mohammad Akram, Moin Khan, Mushtaq Ahmed, Fiazee Raza, Rashid Latif, Saqib Anwar, Salim Malik, Salim Malik, Saqib Anwar, Waqar Younis

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Malcolm endears himself to some young supporters in Johannesburg yesterday. Photograph: Graham Morris

English basketball still struggling to break clear of the sporting backwaters

Rockets-led revolution on a slow burner

If there was extra vigour in the local derby at the Brixton Recreation Centre yesterday, a little more swag and arrogance, it was probably the fault of Houston Rockets. The basketball circus might have left town that day, but the tricks were still warm and the memories strong.

The previous night, at the final of the McDonald's club championship at London Arena, Marvin Ambrosius had won a Hakeem Olajuwon ball and bag for hitting ten shots in a row. He had also met Julius Irving — his idol "Dr J" — and was still buzzing from the moment as he led his Brixton Top Cats against Crystal Palace in a critical under-19 league fixture.

"I eat, drink, sleep basketball, and when I'm not doing any of those I'm practising or playing," Ambrosius said. He takes his basketball to school, even to parties sometimes, practising his dribbling in any free time. His knowledge of the players in the National Basketball Association (NBA) is encyclopaedic, and although just 15, his career-plan has already been mapped out in his dreams.

"This can be a job for me, either in Europe or even the NBA," he said. "I think every day about playing for the Rockets or the Bulls." He has the NBA-speak to prove it, too. "I just want to be the best I can possibly be."

David Stern, the commissioner of the NBA and one of the most powerful men in sport, could have been thinking of Ambrosius as he described the "aspirational" importance of Houston Rockets' much-heralded appearance in London last week. The quotation marks round the word aspirational are his.

The Rockets are the NBA champions, and the fact that they agreed to play in the McDonald's championship was greeted in some quarters as a turning point in the fortunes of English basketball. Another turning point, another revolution. How many times has that been heard about basketball?

"I think 'turning point' is a bit dramatic," Stern said, his New York drawl squeezing every last stress out of the middle syllable. "There is a need for continuity and consistency, working with the leagues, working with television and sponsors so that we have a cumulative effect. A kid walks into the video store and sees an NBA video, he buys an NBA computer game, he watches MTV, drinks Coke, eats McDonald's, all supporting basketball. It always works in the end, but who knows where on the cycle we might make the hit?"

The NBA's drip technique is a chilling example of what can be done with good image, good public relations, massive television exposure and, of course, wardrobes full of NBA merchandise. At the London Arena, replica shirts were being sold at £40, jackets £85, T-shirts £15, with 50 per cent of proceeds going straight into the pockets of the multimil-



Bryant, of Houston Rockets, takes off to score against Buckler Bologna in the final of the McDonald's championship. The Rockets, the NBA champions, won 126-112

lionaire players. If you cannot find a court or a coach — and, in this country, both are scarce — then at least you can look like a real player.

Stern does not try to hide the fact that his job depends on increasing the revenue for his employers, owners of the NBA franchises, and that means selling more T-shirts and more television. The NBA's interest in promoting the game itself is not philanthropic. The one way to sell more gear is to get more kids playing. Promoting national leagues like the Budweiser League in England, still relatively weak after all these years, is good only for providing a local stepping stone to the NBA.

The American market is saturated, so expansion has to come from the rest of the world, which Stern quaintly terms "offshore". A deal with Chinese state television to show the NBA package is one step on the road to the "globalisation" (Stern's word again) of basketball: setting up an office in London, the first in Europe outside the main office in Geneva, in the new year a reflection of how seriously the NBA is taking market resistance in the United Kingdom.

"Maybe, there will be countries where we have to say: 'Hey, it's not going to be a

great sport here," Stern said. The UK, maybe? "No, I don't think so. We just have to work harder to make the sport work at the grass roots level. In the end, it's all to do with kids being drawn to the game, because it's more their sport than yours."

Proof of that could be found in the youthful faces of the Top Cats yesterday. The Top Cats, one of the strongest clubs in

the land, have 70 members and five teams, from senior down to under-11s, which is mixed. One of their female graduates, Andrea Congreaves, is now earning \$60,000 a year playing in Italy; another, Steve Bucknall, who went to school in Tulsa, once played for the Los Angeles Lakers. Scholarships to US colleges remain one way out for a number of talented

players, but they are long shots.

In terms of numbers, basketball is growing daily: in terms of facilities, painfully slowly. Jimmy Rogers, head coach of the Top Cats, has heard all the talk about basketball booms before, and he has been playing and coaching for 42 years since first playing on the roof — yes, the roof — of his school in

Newcastle. "If you took the top three players from either side here," Rogers said, "they would be as good as their counterparts in the US."

"But even if one turns out to be the best player we've ever had in this country, what chance has he got? We have more kids now wanting to play but they have nowhere to play and no coaches, and our best players will go and not

come back anyway." Nobody listening to Rogers' roars on the sidelines could doubt his passion for the game, any more than they could doubt the commitment of the NBA, which invested £3 million in bringing a coach of the NBA to the London Arena court. Houston Rockets dancing girls and all. It is just a question of whether one will ever bear more than a passing resemblance to the other. The Top Cats have attracted little sponsorship and even less publicity so far.

"Basketball is perceived as a black sport, both here and in the US, but whether that's a problem, I don't know," Rogers said. "I used to think it might be a matter of race, but now I think it's more a matter of breaking down the establishment sports — cricket, rugby union, tennis — where all the money goes."

Still, like the Rockets, the Top Cats lived up to their name, beating the bigger boys from Palace 95-86. They also have a new court, built by Nike and opened by two Rockets players last week, to show the NBA's presence. "Now," Rogers said, wearily, "all we have to do is get the council to put some lights in." No wonder the Top Cats play beneath a bright yellow banner which reads: "Struggle is my life".



A more familiar basketball stage as Rogers, head coach of Brixton Top Cats, prepares for his team's game yesterday

Girls need to be helped in sport

By JOHN GOODBODY

FEMALE sport needs to be taken more seriously to stop teenage girls giving up physical activities while still at school, a Welsh report says. The investigation found that girls suffer many disadvantages, compared with boys, and that they see sport, apart from fitness activities such as aerobics, as playing only a small part in the lives of women.

Dr Huw Jones, of the Sports Council for Wales, said: "Parents treat girls very differently in terms of sports provision, giving a much higher priority to boys than to girls and to competitive sport rather than recreational."

The report, *Why Boys and Girls Come Out To Play*, is based on a survey of 11 to 13-year-olds conducted by University College, Swansea.

Dr Jones, the council's director of policy planning, said: "The report also shows there is a lack of prestige afforded to girls' sport. For example, in schools at Monday morning assembly the weekend's rugby and football results are usually announced before those of the hockey and netball teams."

Among the report's recommendations are to consider establishing more teams of varying ability for girls in the early years of secondary education; to give greater support of clubs for females and to forge links between those clubs and schools.

Schoolboys benefit playing both codes

By NICK SZCZEPANIK

A RUGBY team at an independent school on the South Coast of England is far from unusual, but for the past seven years, Brighton College Junior School has run a rugby league side to compare with the best in their [under-13] age group: the main drawback is that their nearest regular opponents are hundreds of miles away in Yorkshire and Lancashire.

The teachers, John Peace and John Newman, originally offered the sport as a club option alongside origami and bridge, and the everybody-gets-a-game philosophy is maintained even against the most accomplished opposition.

"Because it's a club, we don't ask for the best, although sometimes we get them," Peace said. "One lad is in the third XV for rugby union, but he does a good job for us. If they have the right attitude, then it doesn't matter how strong or weak they are: if we can, we'll give them a game."

The codes co-exist comfortably at the school. "I see nothing but benefits, especially in handling skills and tackling," Brian Davis, who looks after union, said, "and the enthusiasm of these guys [Newman and Peace] is infectious."

A positive response from pupils prompted the two to become qualified coaches at sessions run by the former international, Bev Rismann, and advice has been forthcoming from the great and the good of the northern code:

Alex Murphy, Ray French and Garry Schofield have all offered encouragement. With the return of professional rugby league to the capital, a further opportunity for high-level input was seen, and the London Broncos will be holding a coaching session at Brighton today to which other local primary schools have been invited.

While the team has played at southern venues, a London select XIII was defeated before a university match at Crystal Palace, and school and club sides from Lancashire and Yorkshire have visited Brighton — northern tours are the highlights of the year. Players stay with local families and



the experience is as much cultural as sporting. "We wanted someone to play, and I have a contact in Yorkshire, so we went up there," Newman explained. "Roger Grimes in St Helens read about us in

Open Rugby magazine, and it snowballed." They have played several pre-match exhibition games at such famous rugby league venues as Headingley [Leeds] and Knowsley Road [St Helens]. On Good Friday 1990, Brighton's 44-8 victory against Haydock High School was a curtain-raiser to the St Helens-Wigan first division fixture, in front of an eventual crowd of 17,000.

At Headingley last year, the team came up against a junior side affiliated to Leeds, several of whom are destined to join the professional ranks. Although Brighton lost a bruising encounter 38-12 against physically stronger oppo-

nents, enthusiasm among players gathered to watch a video rerun was undiminished. "Some of them were so big we thought they were the coaches," one veteran said.

Are nerves a problem on big grounds? "The crowds at the beginning are small, so you don't notice them until you go off and then you see 11,000 people and think, 'Where did they all come from?' Apart from the glory, the attractions of the game were unanimously declared to be its speed and, in ear-splitting unison, "the tackling!"

Involvement with the sport usually ends when boys leave school at 13, but pioneering players of the early tours look back with affection. "I'm extremely grateful for the experience," Arthur Liu said. He is now in the senior school upper sixth and was invited to join Yorkshire club Oulton for training at Lillishall — the only person there without a northern accent.

Although a Sussex triallist, most of his university choices are in the north and he hopes to renew his acquaintance with rugby league. Barney James remembers the team spirit: "You had people that weren't as talented, but really wanted to be there," he said. "It was a committed team, one of the best I've played there."

Apart from the chance to perform in front of large and appreciative crowds, there is another attraction for the boys of Brighton College Junior School to go north: through continued exposure to northern culture, they have developed a taste for mushy peas.



Rugby league is a 'club' activity for Brighton College boys. Photograph: Des Jensen

American monopoly preserved as Houston fight back

By NICHOLAS HARLING

MAYBE it is just as well that the very format of the McDonald's Championship now prevents it taking place more often than every two years. Were the gap between tournaments shorter, the Europeans might not be able to delude themselves that they are anything other than light years behind the Americans.

It was after the Houston Rockets had preserved the National Basketball Association's (NBA) record of success in the event that some of the Rockets made polite noises about the upwards curve of quality in Europe. Statistics do not necessarily bear them out.

Certainly there was an improvement by European teams over the first three finals. After the Soviet national squad had lost by 27 points to Milwaukee Bucks in 1987, Real Madrid went down by 15 to Boston Celtics and then, the following year, there were only six points in it when Jugoplastika Split succumbed to the Denver Nuggets.

Sixteen was the margin when New York Knicks beat Pop 84 Split in 1990 before Jovencut Badalona came closest of all to ending the monopoly in 1991 when Los Angeles Lakers pipped them by two points. This year Buckler Bologna did, at least, improve by eight points on 22-point losing margin against Phoenix Suns in 1993.

It was after Bologna had

Results 34

tumbled 126-112 to the Rockets in a packed London Arena on Saturday that the victorious coach, Rudy Tomjanovich, said: "I think the gap is closing. Some teams don't have the depth to play against NBA teams, but there are quality players here, they are getting better. You can see the improvement. The coaching is of a high standard too."

Even when the Italians, spurred by three early baskets from their most experienced player, Orlando Woolridge, who just happens to be American, jumped into a 17-10 lead, there was never much doubt that the Rockets would claw their way back. That they eventually did so was due in no small way to Clyde Drexler, who, in the injury-enforced absence of Hakeem Olajuwon, assumed the main responsibility.

The game's outstanding marksman with 34 points, Woolridge was, in the opinion of many pundits, the most valuable player but Drexler who collected 25 points, took the award, presumably for the manner in which he led the Rockets to lift-off. A genial figure, both on and off court, he was genuinely moved to receive the Drazen Petrovic Trophy in honour of possible Europe's greatest player, who was killed on a car crash two years ago.

Homen adds voice to election concern

By DAVID POWELL, ATHLETICS CORRESPONDENT

CARL-OLAF HOMEN, the president of the European Athletic Association (EAA), voiced his concern this weekend over the outcome of his governing body's elections last week, at a time when Primo Nebiolo, the International Amateur Athletic Federation (IAAF) president, stands accused of vote rigging.

Nebiolo brushed aside published allegations made by Jose Maria Odrizola, the president of the Spanish federation, that he had "managed to control the European association as a result of money and buying people", by describing Odrizola as "a frustrated man". Odrizola had responded, Nebiolo suggested, out of his failure to secure the European or world championships for Madrid and his lack of success in IAAF and RAA elections.

While Homen, a Finn, said that he "cannot accuse any special person of having interfered," he added: "I have got the feeling that there were intrigues and efforts from outside to influence the outcome of our elections."

Odrizola's views were aired in the Spanish media and a press release has been issued by the German federation, asking a similar line. Odrizola, Schmitz-Bueckhoff and Heiner Henze, the EAA secretary, were among those to lose their positions and Homen said: "In the new council there are many highly

competent persons — I am not against a single one — but, unfortunately, there were some competent persons not re-elected. The greatest damage was that Mr Henze was not re-elected. He has been the motor of the EAA for the last four years."

The allegations against Nebiolo, which he denies, are that he promised financial help for national federations in return for their support of his candidates. Homen is now outflanked by eastern Europeans who are in his debt for assistance. After three chaotic years, the eastern European structure is improving.

Voted onto the 17-strong council, ahead of Odrizola, were a Russian and a Hungarian. "It is important to get regional balance and to get the strongest national federations represented," Homen said. "It is not good that two of the strongest federations, Germany and Spain, are not represented on the council."

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Chelsea's security blanket fails its principal duty



Gullit: no reward from roving role

Chelsea 1
Manchester United 4

By ANDREW LONGMORE

HAD Eric Cantona been accorded the same level of security on the field as he was off it, Chelsea might have gained more from this high-tension match than an uncomfortable sense of their own frailty in a 4-1 defeat.

Aware of the sensitivity of the occasion — the Frenchman's first away game in the FA Carling Premiership after his ban, his first visit to London since Selhurst Park last January, his first meeting with the referee and linesman who had sent him off that night — Chelsea went to absurd lengths to cocoon him, except where it mattered.

An eight-man DayGlo guard of honour greeted Cantona every time he emerged or left the field, a security man with the build of a rugby prop forward escorted him off at the end, corridors were formed, barriers

erected, crowds held back, the press detained without trial. If Parkhurst had been half as well policed, the head of the Prison Service would still be in a job.

It was all grossly exaggerated, farcical even, like a cross between the Great Train Robbery and an Ealing Comedy. Carry on, Cantona. Will every club now employ a regiment of guards to protect the Frenchman? And, anyway, who needs protecting from whom? Cantona from the baiters? The baiters from Cantona? Not even the heavies from All-Purpose Security can protect Cantona from himself.

In the event, as they used to say about sensitive political marches, it all passed off peacefully. By playing some searing football in the first ten minutes and scoring twice, Manchester United defused all the tension. The home supporters even forgot to jeer Cantona at times, though he had a hand in three of the four goals, so roundly had they turned on their own team.

Only the princely Gullit and the United old boy Hughes were exempt from the terrace burial. But the Chelsea players, who were not as impressed by the Dutchman's attempts to play United on his own, did betray some signs of Ruud rage. After the fourth goal had been stroked home by McClair, the substitute, five minutes from time, Johnsen and Gullit had a frank exchange of views. Reading the semaphore, it seemed the defence wanted the Dutchman to stop his impersonation of Roy of the Rovers and Gullit wanted his defence to stop playing like the Bash Street Kids.

By then, Gullit had graduated from his role as the centrepiece of Chelsea's three-man defence (15 minutes) through the midfield (60 minutes) and into attack (15 minutes). But as Glenn Hoddle, the Chelsea manager, had brought on Spencer for Peacock to reinforce his front line for the last quarter anyway, in a desperate attempt to retrieve a two-goal deficit, Gullit's absence from the

midfield simply allowed United to counter-attack with venom. Hoddle would only say that his side lost its shape and that he had to gamble, but it was a moot point whether Gullit's one-man Total Football had helped or hindered the Chelsea cause. He was still comfortably their best player, wherever he chose to play.

The damage was done early on, when Scholes exploited space down either side of the centre backs to score twice, the first after Cantona had dummied Neville's cross, the second a thumping shot after the Frenchman had stunned a pass hit firmly at his navel and, in one movement, swept the ball on. "You can't afford to give a side of United's class a two-goal lead," Hoddle moaned.

Thereafter, Chelsea were like rescuers searching through rubble. They did fleetingly find hope when Hughes, who was given a heart-warming reception by the United following, scored 15 minutes from the end. But a dazzling individual goal by Giggs three minutes later snuffed

it out. Alex Ferguson thought United's first half was their best of the season, but shook his head at their inability to finish the game off. "We should have had it won by half-time. But 2-0 is a difficult scoreline," he muttered.

What will concern the United manager, apart from Cole's clumsiness in front of goal, is the strange lack of spark in Cantona, whose sporadic touches were still enough to make Chelsea, but whose game, much of it spent on the left-side of midfield, lacked the passion of old. There were some advantages in that. When Sinclair hacked down McClair and was harried by a posse of red shirts before his red card, Cantona's was not one of them. His emotions too, it seems, are closely guarded.

Chelsea (3-5-2): D. Hoggins — F. Bardsley, R. Dwyer, E. Johnson — S. Carter, D. Wicks (sub: G. Bailey, 60th), E. Newton, G. Peacock (sub: J. Spencer, 65), A. Myers — P. Farthing, M. Hughes. Manchester United (4-4-2): P. Scholes (sub: G. Neville, 5th), S. Bruce, G. Peacock, D. Wicks — N. Butt, B. Keane, R. Brown, E. Cantona — A. Cole, P. Scholes (sub: B. McCosker, 79). Referee: A. Wilkie.

Merseyside club complete tactical triumph as Southampton playmaker is sent off

Le Tissier dismissed by Liverpool mastery

Southampton 1
Liverpool 3

By DAVID MILLER

AT THE end of a week in which the coaching intelligence of English football has been horribly exposed by foreign opposition, Liverpool reminded us once more how it should be done. Their interpassing and movement off the ball at the Dell yesterday, in a one-sided FA Carling Premiership victory, was a joy.

This was not a happy afternoon for Matthew Le Tissier, the Southampton captain and would-be England luminary. During 70 minutes, he contributed little to Southampton's quest for survival, never mind equality, and was then sent off for a second bookable offence. From first to last, Liverpool's young lions, Redknapp, McManaman and Fowler, together with the veteran, Barnes, gave their opponents an exhibition in basic play.

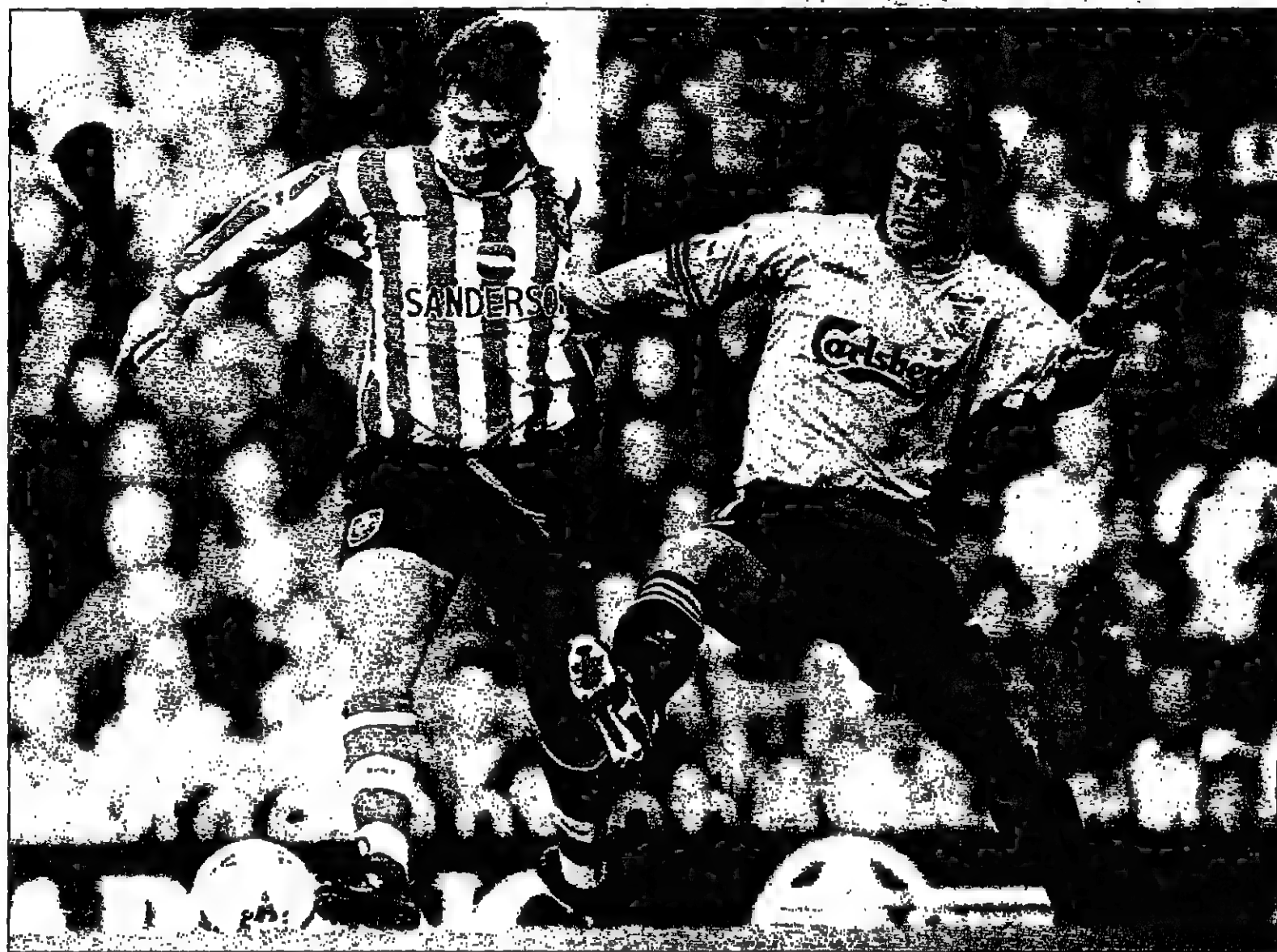
It was from Le Tissier's dipping corner kick in the second minute that Watson deflected the ball under James, the Liverpool goalkeeper, on the near post to give Southampton the lead. Four minutes later, a through pass from Le Tissier to Hughes might have brought a second. Hughes shot wide. Thereafter, Southampton were never in serious contention. Roy Evans, the Liverpool manager,

could even contend that "we got sloppy towards the end".

Once Southampton had enjoyed their early flourish, they were tactically overrun, with Le Tissier nowhere to be seen. In direct opposition to Redknapp, who had played promisingly in Norway 11 days ago, there was no comparison in their positional intelligence and accuracy. In a count of 102 passes, Redknapp was on the mark 97 times, a remarkable display. Le Tissier never "showed", so that he seldom received the ball.

It would seem that no coach has explained to Le Tissier that to receive the ball, you as often need to run towards the colleague with the ball as to run away from him. Likewise, Le Tissier when in possession seldom gives a short pass, always looking for the defence-splitting ball: spectacular when it works, costly when it does not. The late Jimmy Murphy spent hours and hours impressing on Bobby Charlton as a boy the importance of the short pass.

Furthermore, and this is something the Southampton coaching staff must seriously confront in the difficult weeks ahead that include Manchester United and Liverpool away by the beginning of December, Le Tissier appears short of maximum fitness. For much of the first hour he was ambling on the periphery and when, on a long dribble down the left touchline, he finally lost possession to Barnes, he was so short of wind he could



Le Tissier, who was later sent off, is put under strong pressure from Redknapp during Southampton's defeat yesterday. Photograph: Julian Herbert

not raise a gallop for the next minute or more.

Dave Merrington, the Southampton manager, attempted to reduce the discomfort of the manner of defeat by saying euphemistically: "The boys worked hard." He added that Le Tissier was "trying too hard to bring things off". What Le Tissier and Southampton need is not for him to be a genius twice a match, but to be a functional part of the team for ninety minutes as

Redknapp was. Merrington acknowledged Liverpool's quality; he must acknowledge too the way they achieve it with selfless running.

Although Fowler was a constant thorn in Southampton's defence, he was unable to score the two or three goals that might have been his; the first of these after quarter of an hour when Beasant rushed to the edge of the penalty area to tip the ball off Fowler's toe for a corner.

It was Redknapp who set up the equalising goal in the 21st minute with his chip to Fowler on the right flank after a free kick. Fowler rounded Beasant and pulled the ball back into the path of McManaman who calmly swept the ball home. Liverpool maintained the pressure for the rest of the half, though Shipperley squandered an open goal shortly before the interval.

Twelve minutes into the

second half Liverpool were ahead. A tackle by Redknapp nudged the ball down the right for McAteer to race clear, beat one defender and hit a low cross-shot which Beasant could only parry, the ball going straight to McManaman.

On the hour, Le Tissier earned his first notice: his name in the referee's book for a clumsy challenge on Rush. Ten minutes later he lunged foolishly at Babb and had to

go. Southampton vainly brought on Hesney and Maskell as substitutes. Redknapp ripping through on the left to seal the afternoon with a Geoff Hurst-style shot into the roof of the net from an angle on the left.

SOUTHAMPTON (3-5-2): D. Beasant — T. Widdowson (sub: J. C. Dwyer, 65th), R. Hoggins, P. Farthing, S. Carter — S. Bruce, N. Butt, B. Keane, R. Brown, E. Cantona — A. Cole, P. Scholes (sub: B. McCosker, 79). Referee: D. Galt.

Bowry makes Palace pay for allowing him to leave

Crystal Palace 1
Millwall 2

By PAT GIBSON

MILLWALL recorded their fifth away win of the season with a performance which showed why they have now joined Leicester City at the top of the Endleigh Insurance League first division while their south London rivals are languishing in the bottom five.

"They had more desire than we did," Ray Lewington, the Crystal Palace manager, said succinctly.

Leopards may never change their spots but the Lions have altered their habits dramatically. They used to be at their most dangerous when visitors dared to enter their Den but they are now more menacing on the prowl, as Port Vale, Reading, Portsmouth, Watford and now Palace have discovered to their cost.

They had not won at

Selhurst Park for 27 years but they were beginning to put that dismal record behind them as early as the third minute. Palace were playing with three central defenders but when Bowry tore down the left and delivered a perfect cross, not one of them got in a challenge as Malkin headed

Luton Town moved off the bottom of the first division yesterday thanks to a David Oldfield goal at Ipswich. Rob van der Laan's last-minute goal earned a 1-1 draw at Stoke City, who had led through Kevin Keen.

powerfully past Martyn. To rub salt in the Palace wound, Bowry used to play for them and he was obviously relishing the opportunity to show them what they had lost when they allowed him to join Millwall in the summer.

"He is a very talented boy,"

Mick McCarthy, the Millwall manager, said afterwards. Not that Palace are short of talented players. The full backs, Edwards and Gordon, are full of ability, and fittingly, it was Gordon who scored the 31st minute equaliser, volleying unerringly into the far corner.

Four minutes later, however, Millwall were back in front with a goal which showed how things are going for Palace at the moment. When Martyn, under pressure, punched at van Blerk's corner, the ball rebounded off Fuchs's shoulder and into the back of the net. It was the German's first goal for Millwall. The fact that both he and Malkin, another new signing, had both put their names on the scoresheet illustrated the major difference between the sides.

Palace have two new strikers of their own in Taylor and Freedman but they never looked like scoring and Taylor's frustration showed when he was involved in the only two flashpoints of a potentially explosive derby game.

It just about summed up the Palace day when Lewington learnt that the club will be fined because some of his players were wearing different numbers from those on the team sheet.

CRYSTAL PALACE (3-5-2): N. Martyn — P. Shaw, A. Roberts, C. Coleman — M. Edwards, B. Dyer, Z. Zornier, D. Hoggins, S. Rodgers (sub: D. Matthews, 61), D. Gordon — D. Freedman, G. Taylor. MILLWALL (4-3-3): K. Kellie — R. Newman, T. Witter, A. Stevens, J. van Blerk — B. Bowry, A. Pies, N. Dowle — C. Malkin (sub: K. Dixon, 45), D. Savage, U. Fuchs (sub: K. Black, 53). Referee: D. On.

Sham Arsenal stave off inept assault

Arsenal 2
Aston Villa 0

By ALYSON RUDD

"I HAVE discovered the secret of alchemy," Blackadder's Lord Percy declared. The goofy top then proudly revealed he had turned base metals into a dollop of sludge he called "most precious green".

Green, gold, Arsenal, what is the difference anyway if the heart is in the right place? When Bruce Rioch became Arsenal manager he immediately signalled his intention to turn base Highbury auric, or in his words, to become "inventive and creative".

Rioch has certainly altered Arsenal but he has not transformed them. He did not really want to. He has not tampered with the club's defensive line-up. Parlour, Merson and Helder were all playing, or promising to play their part under the management of George Graham and Stewart Houston. And no one in their right mind would want to change Ian Wright — other than to plead for an improved disciplinary record.

Instead, Rioch has attempted to coax flair into the Arsenal side, has signed Bergkamp and Platt and presented us with most precious frustration.

Against Aston Villa on Saturday, Arsenal were spasmodically pretty, delicate even. Some of their movement was intelligent too, with Bergkamp and Wright spin-

ning around the field. But it all smacked of an impersonation. Arsenal still looked more comfortable peering across the line and throwing their arms in the air with appeals for offside. The day would lift his hand to call for a pass inside his own half will be the day Arsenal are truly transformed.

Brian Little admitted he "came to make it hard for them" but succeeded in only making it hard for themselves. Villa clogged up the midfield so completely that Draper could not see, let alone move, leaving the play most able to turn the match in the visitors' favour forlorn.

The one player who initially looked least capable of winning the match for Arsenal — Helder — in the end did just that. His low, gentle cross troubled Bosnich and Merson pounced on a loose ball to put Arsenal in control of the second half.

His confidence boosted, Helder then danced past McGrath and released Bergkamp, whose own tamey struck ball was missed by the Villa goalkeeper and seized on by Wright.

Rioch is not yet the man with the golden Gunners but, if the Premiership keeps on throwing up such inept assaults on Highbury, he will hardly care. Arsenal (3-4-3): D. Seaman — L. Dixon, S. Boulton, A. Adams, N. Winterburn — M. Nelson, R. Parfitt, G. Helder — I. Wright, G. Bergkamp. ASTON VILLA (4-4-1): M. Bosnich — G. Charles, G. Southgate, P. McGovern (sub: G. Fagan, 60th), U. Scharf, A. Wright — Taylor, G. Lortie, M. Draper (sub: T. Johnson, 63), S. Thornton (sub: S. Mollison, 63) — D. Hoggins. Referee: R. Hart.

Tottenham fail to convince with missed goal chances

Everton 1
Tottenham Hotspur 1

By PETER BALL

TOTTENHAM Hotspur voices have been suggesting recently that the FA Carling Premiership title is within reach. It is a worthy ambition but it did not look a very likely one yesterday as they failed to beat Everton, who are short on form, confidence and bodies.

Tottenham looked the more composed, compact side, but for all their increasing superiority as the game went on, Neville Southall had little enough to do at Sheringham gave an object lesson in every aspect of a target man's game except the crucial one — the ability to put the ball in the net. Though Armstrong ended his search for his first goal for Tottenham in some style, he too saw chances wasted.

For their part Everton have now gone six Premiership games without a win. But if they are still searching for form and confidence, the taste for battle has been restored, the side embarking on their search and destroy missions with obvious relish.

Horne, inevitably, led by example, and that was picked up right through the team. In the dying minutes, as Sheringham moved forward menacingly, it was his opposite number, Rideout, who came back to send him flying. "At least we've got more points than we had when I came last year," Joe Royle, the

Everton manager, said. His side now have nine points from ten games; when Royle arrived they had taken eight points from 14 matches, an improvement indeed, if not one to write home about. But until Amokachi returns, or Ferguson gets out of prison, they are light at the front.

"I think we're getting there," Royle added. "It could have been 6-0 — great for the punters but the two managers couldn't be happy with some of the defending."

Indeed, at times in the first half Tottenham's defence looked as vulnerable as in the days of Ardiees. Stuart, the smallest forward on view, had three free close-range headers, scoring from one. At the other end, Sheringham, pulled Everton's defence apart with his intelligent moves.

"Ian Walker had to make a couple of fine saves," Royle said. "But Neville didn't have that much to do. Spurs missed their chances rather than him

having to save them." The misses started in the tenth minute. Watson's mistimed header let in Sheringham but the England forward went wider and wider in an attempt to make sure and finally, having moved from straight in front of goal to an acute angle, pulled his shot across the face of the goal.

That looked a bad miss at the time. Two minutes later it looked an even worse one, as Kanchelskis and Samways exchanged passes, Kanchelskis crossed and Stuart's header left Walker helpless.

For 25 minutes Everton had the better of things. But Stuart and Samways shot over. Short got a free header from a corner and put that over, and when Kanchelskis got to the byline and picked out Stuart again, the header went straight at Walker.

While this was going on Armstrong was missing chances, but finally he got it right with remarkable aplomb: a brilliant 60-yard pass from Wilson sent him racing between two defenders to lob Southall perfectly. From that moment Tottenham took over, but Sheringham, Rosenthal and Dozzel missed glorious chances to win the game. Not the stuff of which championships are made.

EVERTON (4-4-2): N. Southall — M. Jackson, D. Watson, C. Short, G. Agnew — A. Kanchelskis, V. Samways, S. Farnham, J. Handley (sub: A. Lister, 70th) — G. Stuart, P. Rodwell. TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR (4-4-2): I. Wright — D. Austin, C. Carterwood, G. Helder, O. Wilson — R. For, S. Campbell (sub: J. O'Connell, 60th), D. Hoggins, G. MacKenzie (sub: R. Farnham, 73) — S. Sheringham. Referee: R. Dimes.

Forest now set course for Clark's second slice of history

Nottingham Forest 3
Bolton Wanderers 2

By IVO TENNANT

COMPARISONS, as Frank Clark knows only too well, can be upsetting. On Sunday, Nottingham Forest, his Nottingham Forest, created a record through being unbeaten for 23 successive matches in the FA Carling Premiership. As an achievement, however, it cannot yet bear scrutiny with that of his predecessor.

Under Brian Clough, Forest were unbeaten for 42 matches between November 1977 and December 1978. Not surprisingly, they became champions in this period. Such are the standards set for Clark. This member of that team. This may in part account for why Forest are not now receiving the praise he feels they are due.

Last week, Forest beat Auxerre in France, a triumph accentuated by the fact that none of the four other British clubs involved in European competition won their matches. The acclaim that this merited was not forthcoming. Clark, a mild-mannered man, has a bland public persona that is the very antithesis of Clough's. It is deceptive.

His management is decisive. He knows as well as Alex Ferguson when to offload a player. And he knows when to deal with a player's goalkeeper, has become concerned at being overlooked by England. He is 26 and does not have even an under-21 cap to his name. What he does possess is one Scottish and one Welsh grandparent, and hence could change allegiances. Clark has told him he is good enough to play for England, not forgetting that Forest do not need another assimilated foreigner.

He will stand by Crossley, after two errors in this match that almost allowed Bolton Wanderers — who played far more measured football than their lowly standing would suggest they could — to gain a rare victory. First, a shot by Sneekes spun off Crossley's chest into goal; and this was followed, in the second half, by a hopeless clearance that fell to De Freitas a few yards out.

Forest had gained a slightly fortuitous goal through Roy. They scored a second time when Stone brushed aside Patterson on the byline and pulled the ball back to Lee in front of goal. At 2-2, full-time imminent, Cooper directed the ideal header past Branagan from Lyttle's cross. Above all, Clark's management encompasses accurate passing. Only 19 unbeaten matches go to Nottingham Forest (4-4-2): M. Crossley — D. Lyttle, D. Cooper, S. Christie, S. Pearson — S. Stone, S. Gernsey, G. Bart-Walker, M. Nelson — S. R. J. Lister, D. Hughes, P. Tisdale, S. Christie — S. Wilson, N. Shipperley (sub: C. Marshall, 60).

BOLTON WANDERERS (4-4-2): K. Branagan — S. McManis, C. Patterson, G. Bingham, P. Phillips — T. Sneekes, A. Stokes, M. Patterson (sub: D. Lee, 60), S. Thompson — J. McClellan (sub: P. De Freitas, 74), M. Farnham. Referee: D. Elbery.

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Hershiser's decline costs Cleveland dear in first contest of baseball World Series

Braves profit from inspired opening pitch by Maddux

FROM KEITH BLACKMORE IN ATLANTA

THE first baseball World Series for two years began amid protests by the American Indian Movement (AIM) about the names of the competing teams, the Atlanta Braves and the Cleveland Indians, but it was another Western image, the gunslings' shoot-out, which came to mind after the opening game here on Saturday night.

The first round of the best-of-seven series was a pitching duel, matching an old hand who had somehow recovered his speed on the draw and the younger sharpshooter at the height of his powers. When the shooting stopped, and the dust cleared, it was the younger man, Greg Maddux, of the Braves, the National League champions, who was still standing and Orel Hershiser, of the Indians, winners of the American League, who was lying face down in the dust.

Well, almost. For Maddux, 29, certain to be voted the National League's best pitcher for the fourth season in a row, it was more like business as usual as he steered Atlanta to a 3-2 victory in his first World Series game. For Hershiser, 37, it was a first taste of failure: his first defeat in a series game and the end of an incomparable run.

Maddux was a second-year apprentice with the Chicago Cubs when Hershiser first left his mark on series history in 1988 with one of the great performances. That year, pitching for the Los Angeles Dodgers, he was voted best pitcher in the National League. In the closing stages

of that season, he pitched from August 30 until September 28 (59 consecutive innings) without giving up a run, a major league record.

He was the most valuable player in the series that followed, winning two games as the Dodgers beat Oakland and, after reconstructive surgery on his right shoulder and a move to Cleveland, his sequence of play-off victories was extended this year to seven. Hershiser, a born-again Christian who recites psalms and listens to religious music on a personal stereo to

and his economy and variation bamboozled the Cleveland hitters, the most feared batting line-up in either league.

Maddux likes to become Clark Kent after performing like Superman, donning spectacles and doing everything possible to avoid attention. Some say he is the finest right-handed pitcher since the great Walter Johnson 75 years ago, yet he can walk through a crowded airport unrecognised by autograph-hunters.

After the most important victory of his career, he spent half an hour on an exercise cycle, warming down, before appearing at a packed press conference to try to deflect praise from himself. "The guys made the plays behind me beautifully," he said.

A more realistic appraisal came from Mike Hargrove, the Indians' manager. "He doesn't have overpowering stuff but he is everything you'd want in a pitcher. I've been around a long time and I've never seen a pitcher dominate a game like that. We've been shut down before but that was as masterful a job of pitching as I've seen."

The AIM protesters, meanwhile, had a mixed day. Few turned up to protest but those who did may have had some effect. Braves followers making the contentious towahawk chop during the game did so only sporadically and with some uncertainty. The series, and the protests, were scheduled to resume here last night before moving on to Cleveland tomorrow.

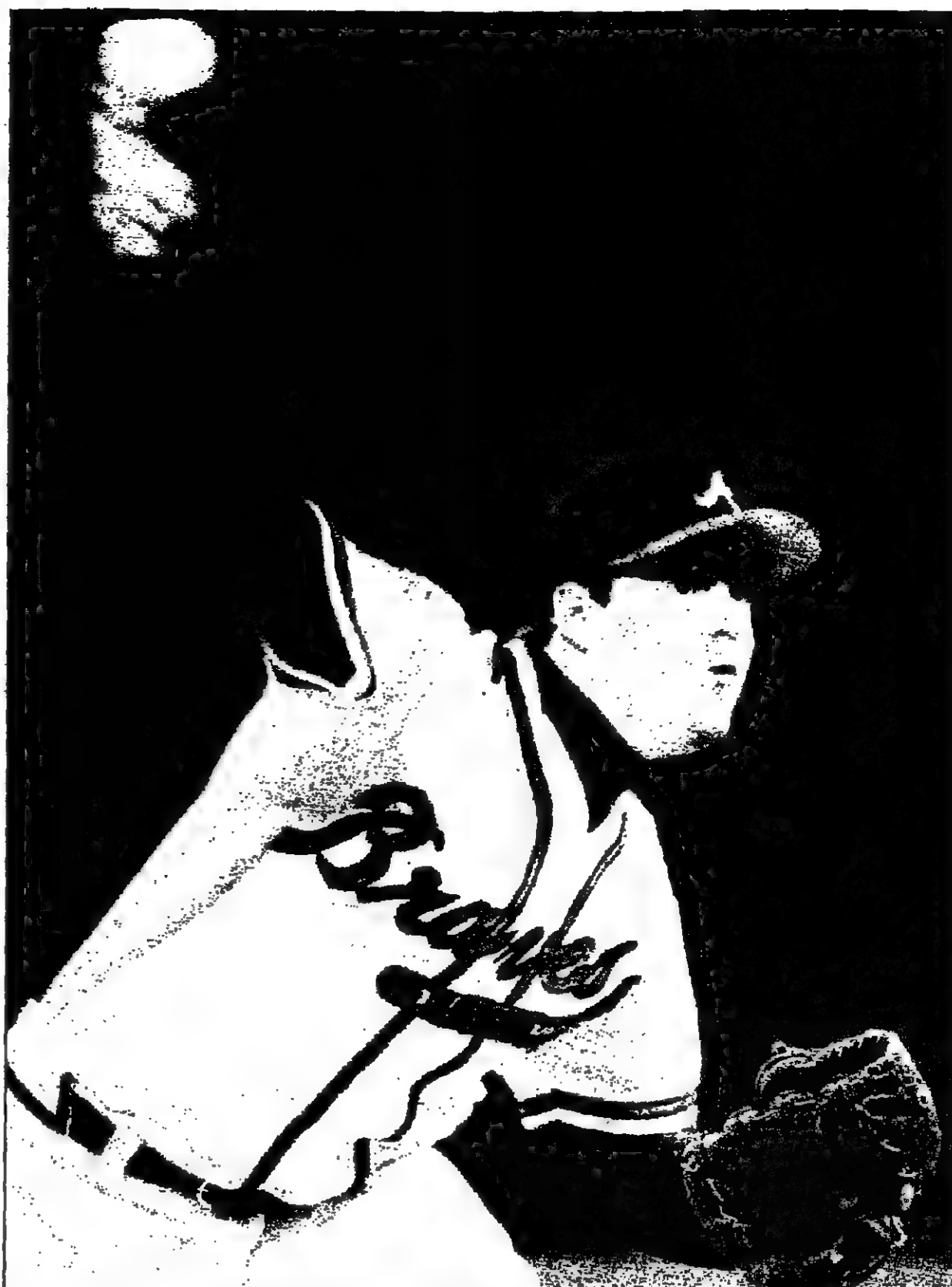
calm himself before pitching, had never been beaten in a play-off game.

For a while on Saturday it looked as if he might extend that run, despite a second-tuning mistake, a high fast ball which allowed Fred McGriff to smash his first

World Series pitch 400 feet into the centre-field seats for a solo home run. After that, he settled down until the seventh, when the strength seemed to leak from his arm like air escaping from a tyre. In quick succession, he allowed McGriff then David Justice to walk on base. He left the mound exhausted and his relievers were unable to prevent both runners from scoring.

That gave Maddux a 3-1 lead and it was all he needed. Neither the run he gave up in the first inning nor the one in the last were his fault, both resulting from fielding errors.

Team	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Runs	Hits	Errors
Cleveland	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	2	2	0
Atlanta	0	1	0	0	0	2	0	X	3	3	3	2



Maddux, the Braves pitcher, displays the skills which consigned Cleveland Indians to defeat in Atlanta

Jimenez's victory gives boost to Warren safety plans

By SRIKUMAR SEN
BOXING CORRESPONDENT

FRANK WARREN, the London promoter, has urged fellow promoters to find ways of making boxing safer. Warren said that, as they were mainly responsible for staging shows, promoters were obliged to take an active part in discussions about safety in the ring.

Speaking after the bout between Alfred Kotev and Daniel Jimenez at York Hall, Bethnal Green, on Saturday, the first significant event since the show in Glasgow a week ago, when James Murray was fatally injured, Warren said he would be announcing safety plans on Wednesday in conjunction with the British Boxing Board of Control.

"I haven't spoken with the other promoters but I know what I want to do about the welfare of boxers and what we can do to help them. The doctors have a voice, but so do promoters."

Warren said he was relieved that the bout between Kotev and Jimenez had "passed without problems". It served to show that it was possible to get a hard, competitive and high-quality contest for twelve rounds without the boxers suffering serious injury.

Kotev lost his World Boxing Organization bantamweight title to the Puerto Rican on points. He would have retained his belt had he worked harder. It seems that, having floored Jimenez in the third round with a left hook to the body, he thought he only had to land another big punch to win. The Puerto Rican came back strongly, however, and set too fast a pace for the Ghanaian. Kotev's hoped-for meeting with Naseem Hamed will have to wait.

Marvin Corpuz, 19, of the Philippines, died of a brain haemorrhage early yesterday after losing a ten-round batamweight bout to Alan Llaneta, in General Santos.

Swindon build lead with strong showing

Swindon Town 2
Crewe Alexandra 1

By NICK SZCZEPANIK

IT WOULD be satisfying to report that this top of the table game between two Endsleigh League second division sides committed to the finer football values was settled by breathtaking moves culminating in classically struck goals. Unfortunately football isn't like that. A straightforward far post header and a penalty brought Swindon Town a 2-1 win that puts them seven points ahead of their nearest rivals.

That is not to say that Swindon didn't pass the ball around; just that they were not above a more direct approach when the occasion demanded it. Crewe Alexandra, however, kept the ball on the ground; even Gayle, the goalkeeper, seemed intent on playing his way out of trouble. "We have to play that way," Dario Gradi, the League's longest-serving manager, said. "We find that other teams have more power. We play football because we can't whack the ball forwards."

The first 30 minutes were absorbing rather than exciting: a game trying out a cynic might say, for a yellow card. It was Steve McMahon who decided that things were a bit too placid and so decked

Garvey to earn one. That was the signal for the game to warm up, especially so far as the 12,633 crowd was concerned, although most of their emotion was directed at the referee, who disallowed two Swindon goals and turned down several penalty appeals.

It was all forgotten when Allison headed past Gayle from Robinson's cross after 58 minutes. But, as the home side looked to extend their lead and Crewe seemed about to wilt, Garvey exchanged passes with Lennon, side-stepped Culverhouse and buried a left-foot shot in the top corner.

The game seemed destined for a draw until Macaulay brought Stanley down from behind in the 87th minute and the referee pointed to the penalty spot, from which Finney himself scored.

"I was pleased," Gradi said. "It was a good standard of game, but we made mistakes: the youngsters got caught. They'll be better next year."

Andy Rowland, the Swindon assistant manager, agreed. "Crewe are a young, maturing team and will be a good side. They played attractive football — but we got the result."

Where Cold War lingers on

KEVIN MCCARRA



Scottish commentary

THE gestures of international co-operation that saw a Ukrainian, Oleg Salenko, accept passes from Scotsmen to score twice for Rangers in their 4-1 victory over Hearts in their 4-1 victory on Saturday came as something of a surprise since, in football, the Cold War has not quite ended.

Players may move freely to the West from the former Soviet Union nowadays but, once here, they still tend to have the uneasy look of defectors, never fully at home in the country they have abruptly embraced.

In Spain and Portugal, internationalists from the old Soviet republics have settled sufficiently to make a handsome living without quite becoming dominant forces. Even in the Iberian Peninsula there are drop-outs. Sergei Yuran, as Blackburn Rovers recently discovered in the Champions League, is now with Spartak Moscow, having been of only sporadic service to Benfica.

Across western Europe, clubs have signed these abundantly talented performers and then discovered that, at great expense, only frustration has been bought. It might be argued that Andrei Kanchelskis, a Ukrainian now with Everton, has been the only one of the former Soviet internationalists to come to the West whose football has transferred with him in full.

Even so, the winger has not overcome everyone's doubts and his manager at Manchester United, Alex Ferguson, records an

intriguing conversation in his book, *A Year in The Life*. When it was reported that Kanchelskis wanted to sign for Rangers, Walter Smith, the Ibrox manager, instantly told Ferguson the transfer would not happen.

"We're not interested," he said. "What does he think? I've enough Russians." Smith was referring to his two Ukrainians, Oleg Kuznetsov and Alexei Mikhailchenko. Kuznetsov suffered a knee injury in only his second match for Rangers and never fully recovered. Mikhailchenko does still remain at the club, and even played on Saturday, but he meets with some suspicion, as well as warm regard, from supporters.

Although the midfield player's skills are endearing his disorientation to chase and harry the opposition creates problems. He looks lazy. However, if his character really were so flawed, he could hardly have captained the Soviet Union and been their most influential player at the end of the 1980s.

The real difficulty lies in Mikhailchenko's conception of the game. In his formative years with Dynamo Kiev he evidently decided that it is better for the ball, rather than the player's body, to suffer the wear and tear.

No matter what he may have said to Ferguson, the Rangers manager, more than any of his counterparts in Britain, has continually been tempted to try to assimilate such gifted players. His purchase of Salenko in the summer, from Spanish club Valencia for £2.5 million, was a high-risk strategy.

The forward set a record by scoring five goals in a World Cup match, against Cameroon at USA 94, but that blaze of glory cannot dispel the darkness of other stretches in his career. He was dropped by Valencia for a spell last season and has not played for Russia since that historic afternoon at Palo Alto.

The two goals against Hearts were encouraging for a man who had previously scored just once for Rangers and his team-mates have begun to appreciate that Salenko, unlike his predecessor Mark Hateley, is no marauding chaser of lost causes. This forward truly responds only to scrupulous service.

An inept Hearts brought rehabilitation for Rangers after the disappointing 4-1 defeat by Juventus, and should Salenko now prosper he will remember the Edinburgh club's feeble defending with special gratitude.

Bracknell bundled out after marathon

Burton Albion 3
Bracknell Town 1

By KEITH PIKE

THE serious stuff starts soon enough: for now, the FA Cup remains the minnows' ocean of impossible dreams and unlikely tales of derring-do. Only, for Bracknell Town, make that derring-don't.

On Saturday, they stood on the verge of history, and a club formed in 1896 has gathered a lot of dust. In 99 years, no Bracknell team had reached the first round proper of the competition. Now, a century is there for the taking and the fact that nobody was disputing the rights or wrongs of their defeat at Eton Park did not make the loss any easier to bear. "It was a devastating feeling," Nick Collier, the Bracknell manager, said. But what fun they have had.

This was Bracknell's ninth match in the Cup, the number of games it can take a team to win it and reach the last to the following year. They had to play Kingsbury Town four times just to reach the first qualifying round, and expended 12 hours' energy, mostly in the baking heat of August and early September, to reach the point where they could enter the competition proper. Is there another tournament like it?

Collier does not think so. "It has been brilliant," he said. "The lads have done the club proud." After the Kingsbury quarter and a replay victory over Thameston Town, there were one-off triumphs against Harrow Borough and Wembley that were giantkilling acts in anybody's book. By now, the ritual included spying trips and pre-match meals. It could have been Blackburn instead of Bracknell. "And at least we went out to a good team at a good ground," Collier said.

In the very best traditions, Bracknell can now concentrate on the League (1cs, second division, four matches played and a fixture backlog as long as a GP's waiting list).

Burton Albion can still dream. They were worthy winners on Saturday. Keast's delightful early chip set them on their way and, although Wilson extended his 39-year-old legs to equalise superbly just before half-time, goals by Davies and Hadley confirmed the superiority of the Beazer Homes League premier division side. For them, the fun may be only just beginning.

Law leaves top racers trailing in his wake

By BARRY PICKTHALL

CHRIS LAW, one of Britain's most under-rated yachtsmen, reached the finals of the Brut Gold Cup match race championship in Bermuda yesterday and beat two former world champions en route to a meeting with Peter Gilmour, of Australia, another former world champion, to contest the first prize of \$30,000 (£20,000).

Law, who lives in Bermuda, was not high enough in the rankings to be invited to the world's oldest match racing event and had to qualify in a preliminary series. Even then his winning form was not in his winning form as he scraped through despite sharing a 4-3 win-loss record with Stuart Childerley, a fellow Briton, at the foot of their group.

after falling during their final qualifying match against Childerley and his crew, Law and his team dispatched former world champion Bertrand Pace, of France, 3-0 in the opening round. He then defeated the favourite, Roy Heiner, of Holland, 3-1 in the quarter-finals.

The Briton's biggest test, however, came in the semi-finals when he and his crew faced America's Cup-winner Russell Coutts, of New Zealand, who is ranked No 1 in the world. Coutts won the first race but was penalised in the next two heats. Law won a place in the finals when Coutts hit the finishing buoy after crossing the line first.

Gilmour defeated Andy Beadsworth, the British match race champion, in the first round and knocked out Ed Baird, the third seed from the United States, in the semi-finals.

Slam-dunk drama proves sadly lacking in subtlety

THE McDonald's basketball championship burst onto the London scene last week with all the glitz and glamour of a Hollywood movie. The three-day tournament, between the world's leading club sides had been dubbed the unofficial world championships but, tucked away in the London Arena, and without a huge promotional thrust, it went unnoticed by most of the country.

The failure of England's representatives, Sheffield Sharks, to qualify for the semi-finals on Friday evening took some of the gloss from the occasion but with Houston Rockets, National Basketball Association champions from the United States and generally cool dudes, taking centre stage, a capacity crowd was still expected.

The journey to London Arena, on the Docklands Light Railway was quick — 20 minutes from the centre of town to Cross Harbour station. Collecting a pre-booked

ticker involved queuing for 15 minutes outside a Portakabin in the rain, only to find that a £1.50 booking fee, per ticket, had been charged even though I rang the London Arena direct to reserve a seat.

Once inside and dried off, I went in search of something to eat from the Mexican and American-style fast-food stalls. Finding a place to lean and eat my chicken burger and drink my Coca-Cola was impossible, so I ended up standing around a bin with a collection of hungry basketball supporters.

As people leaned over to flick cigarette ash into the bin, my chicken seemed increasingly less appealing, and it soon followed the cigarette butts and empty cans and I relied on the diet cola for enough sustenance to get me through the evening.

Alison Kervin confronts the razzmatazz of the basketball circus at London Arena

the bin, I dropped my ticket. Before it could flutter its way to the floor the liner regiment had spiked it away and were gone from sight.

Staff at the Arena were, however, efficient and friendly, and a glimpse at my credit card booking receipt gained

me immediate access to my seat, which had an excellent view of the court.

There is no doubt that the event was good value at £10 or £17 a seat. The first match, between Maccabi Tel Aviv and Real Madrid, tipped off at 7pm and the key contest between

Houston Rockets and Perth Wildcats started at 9pm.

It was non-stop the whole evening — dancers and slam-dunking acrobats filled the breaks while a giant bear roller-skated, danced, trampoline, and at one point swung down in a harness from the ceiling.

The accents, clothes and razzmatazz bore evidence of the American nature of this sport. It was as if the circus had come to town — and, when the cheerleaders ran on for the umpteenth time, I started to wonder how this would translate in traditionally English sports. The image of Pan's People running onto Lord's dressed in sequin-covered hotpants after every innings, and leap-frogging the wickets to the sounds of rock music did not rest easy.

The outing was an experience but, as a sporting occasion, it lacked real depth. Spectators could not watch the pattern of play unfold slowly before them, see the exertion of relentless pressure, or study

tactics being followed through.

It was wham, bam — and 30 points on the board.

Comparing basketball with British team sports is almost like comparing an Oscar Wilde play, with all its subtleties, permutations and insinuations, with a Sylvester Stallone film — high drama and quick action. One of the idiosyncrasies of the sport is its stop-clock system, which means one minute can literally drag out to five or ten minutes, particularly if time-outs are called. As well as being conceptually difficult to deal with, it also means the whole event does run on a bit — in this case close to midnight.

By 11.45pm, half the audience had had to leave in order to catch the last trains, which seemed ridiculous. I left on the hoover and just caught the final tube of the evening — others were not so lucky. They were left stuck on the platform in their enormous basketball boots and new Rockets caps — but you wouldn't get that in Houston.

THROUGH THE TURNSTILE: WHAT IT COSTS	
Admission	£1.50 (one booking fee)
Travel	£1.20 tube (plus 5p bus)
Programme	Free
Food & drink	£2.20 Chicken burger £2.40 2 Cokes
Total cost	£3.90
Was it worth it?	★★★★★

First in its field, Henley is famed for its innovative approach. Tim Jones introduces a report on 50 years of a great institution

Henley Management College has a special place in the annals of British higher education because it was first in its field. The trail it blazed when it was established 50 years ago has been followed and copied by scores of other institutions, but it remains comfortably in the top rank.

The college exists because of the vision and tenacity of a few dedicated people who recognised that even in the days when the sun never set on the empire, Britain did not have a divine right to pre-eminence as an industrial power.

Two men in particular, Harry Inrie Swainston and Lyndall Fowles Urwick, recognised that in a world in which companies were becoming more complex, the sheer scale of industrial growth was outstripping managerial competence. Even in the dark days of the Second World War, when victory was far from assured, the two regularly met with colleagues to plan a strategy for winning the peace.

After several setbacks, their dream was realised in October, 1945, when the Administrative Staff College came into being as a non-profit-making company. At the same time, a lease was acquired on Greenlands, which had been the imposing home of Viscount Hambleden, of the WH Smith bookstore empire.

Greenlands, where the college has its home, stands on a sweet-running stretch of the river, a mile or so from Henley-on-Thames. With its lawns, superb facilities, ultra-modern equipment and comfortable accommodation, it provides the ideal environment for study.

Within a year of its birth, Henley had established a working base which was, with frequent polishing, to become familiar to thousands of people who followed the 43 members who attended the first session. For the first time, managers from various companies were brought together in syndicates so that people from various backgrounds and industries could share, analyse, dissect and learn from their differing experiences. Henley was teaching them that though commercial secrets should be maintained, benefit could come only from understanding that best management practice could be



A mile or so from Henley-on-Thames, the college, with its superb facilities, provides an ideal study environment

A trailblazer for Great Britain plc

applied to all industries for the good of Great Britain plc.

The college was thrust into the role of bringing to the nation a new management culture, of changing the attitudes and practices that had long stifled the development of industry.

As has often happened with innovators, Henley paid the price for being first when the Government decided in 1963 to establish other business schools, to be supported by generous grants. This put Henley at a serious and unfair disadvantage, because the new schools had to find only 20 per cent or less of their income from fees.

To redress the balance, Henley, in 1972, became an associated institution of Brunel University. This enabled Henley to announce its first masters' programme as part of an expanding portfolio that had transformed it from a college with a single post-experience course into an institution offering a range of managerial dev-



Ray Wild: making Henley a truly international college

elopment opportunities and academic qualifications.

In 1981, a prescient report by Thomas Kempner, who was then principal, had a profound effect on the college and helped to spread its expertise around the globe. The study recognised that emerging tech-

nologies such as home-video equipment could be harnessed and applied to the field of distance learning, which was then in an embryonic state.

Faith in the pioneering venture was boosted when Brunel's senate approved the use of a distance learning approach as a means to work towards a master's degree in management, one of the first initiatives of this type for a university. Since then, Henley has developed one of the world's largest and most sophisticated distance programmes. Another course enabled the MBA to be obtained by distance learning using material prepared by the college's graduate studies department and aided by packs developed by Henley Distance Learning Ltd.

As competition became more ferocious, the pressure on Henley to become more "international" increased. To an extent this was helped by the granting to the college, in 1991, of a royal charter which sig-

nalled to potential associates the status that the college had reached within the British educational establishment.

Ray Wild, the fourth and current principal, did not see the college as merely a British business school which happened to do a bit of exporting just as a manufacturer of widgets ships some products abroad. Henley, he knew, had to be truly international and it now has students in 23 countries, all closely controlled from the college.

Professor Colin Carnall, Henley's director of programmes, has tailored global MBAs to acknowledge different cultures, ethics and business practices.

Another programme of growing significance is the international doctor of business administration (DBA) course, run by Professor David Birchall, which focuses on the skills needed for senior management, consultancy work and teaching in an international environment.

The college's newest development is the Henley Learning Partnership, which has been created to respond to the needs of associated companies. The partnership is being created to provide an instant total development service to changes taking place in business.

How to stay one step ahead of your rivals

The company Direct Line transformed perceptions of buying insurance, radically changed its own way of operating, joined the marketplace and, into the bargain, became a prime example of business transformation.

Direct Line did not invent a new product but it demonstrated that insurance could be sold credibly over the phone. By being first in the field, Direct Line got a step ahead of competitors that were selling insurance by traditional methods.

The global business scene moves fast and companies constantly need to change in order to survive. But survival is not enough. A company needs to do things differently to achieve and sustain an advantage over competitors.

The business transformation programme, launched at Henley Management College this month, focuses on how to bring about radical change in the business and marketplace.

Senior decision-makers will be challenged to go back to basics and reconstruct the entire organisation by identifying the activities that their own company does best, and separating out those which can be contracted to other companies.

Over the past ten years, businesses have restructured, cut staff, re-layered and re-engineered themselves. With little left to pare down or speed up, they are asking what to do for an encore.

Rick Brown, director of the business transformation programme, argues that the next wave of competitive breakthroughs will be achieved by starting with a new perspective on business strategy.

The new concepts are founded on the view that corporate growth and prosperity depend on identifying

Surviving in business is just not good enough, says Widget Finn

what it is that an organisation does best, and building on its core competencies," Mr Brown says.

Organisations will stay ahead through innovation — but they must also change the rules of the game to "wrong-foot" the competition.

The competitive breakthroughs of the future, claims Mr Brown, will go to businesses which can transform themselves and their market. The business transformation programme examines the strategic behaviour of companies that are leaders in this process of

IBM illustrates what happens when an organisation lags behind. With 70 per cent of the world computer market, IBM had grown complacent and was slow to respond to change, while the smaller companies focused on where the future market would be — in personal computers.

By the time IBM reacted, the personal computer market was well established. Microsoft software and Intel chips were adopted by IBM but the two supplier companies retain ownership of their products. Who holds the whip hand now?

The business transformation programme will, Mr Brown says, be of particular interest to international companies. "Organisations must become globally competitive. While spreading their net wider geographically, they will have to focus the business activity more narrowly. No organisation can be genuinely world-class in more than a couple of areas."

Participants will form into focus groups constructed around strategic issues. These will be real-life issues faced by the participants, many of whom will be attending the course with a specific brief.

One board director works in an industry where the other market leaders have cut back their branch network. His company has chosen to keep theirs.

The issue which he faces is how to convert that network into a competitive advantage which will leave the others wishing they had held on to theirs.

The main feature of the course will be the analysis of cases involving practical management decision-making. Many involve currently "live" situations, and managers who are involved in strategic change will take part in the discussion.

Companies must now also wrong-foot the competition

change. Canon the photocopier company is a pioneer in the field. The photocopier market was dominated by large machines, with the leading company holding 70 per cent of the market.

Canon, a specialist in smaller low-cost machines, decided to exploit its own expertise rather than challenge the big operators. Recognising that customers were more interested in the lower prices of small machines than the sophistication of larger ones, it introduced user-friendly photocopiers. Canon carried its policy of innovation through to marketing, selling products direct to the customer.

Classmates across the globe

Ian Govier and Alexander Goloviznine, two MBA students, are discussing leadership style during a coffee break. Instead of sharing a table in the cafeteria, they are sitting hundreds of miles apart, talking via their computers in the "electronic coffee room".

Mr Govier, a taxation adviser with Amersham International, lives in Northamptonshire, and Mr Goloviznine is managing director of a company based in St Petersburg. Both are studying for an MBA through Henley Management College's distance learning programme.

Information and communications technology are revolutionising management education. Six thousand business people are working on the distance learning programme in all corners of the world, linked through a network of partner institutions.

The students maintain contact with their local base and Henley through the electronic communications system Lotus Notes, a version of "work-group computing" which enables people to work in teams even when they are geographically apart.

Henley's partners in each country range from local business schools and management training associations to training institutions. Each partner recruits locally, administers the day-to-day details of the programme and provides tutorial support.

Students work on Henley course materials, and the work is assessed by the college, which also carries out quality assurance tests on all the partnerships.

Some students attend one-week residential courses at Henley. But for far-flung students such as Jon Greig, in New Zealand, electronic communication means that he is linked into a global network of MBA students.

He can switch to a discussion about his project, call up pictures of his fellow course members, obtain details of other students working in his sector or make contact with people throughout the world who share his interest in bird-watching.

Isolation can be a problem with distance learning students, concedes Professor Colin Carnall, the director of programmes at Henley. Local support from partner institutions and a hotline to the management college help to reduce the loneliness of the long-distance learner. Lotus

Distance learning programmes mean that students in different parts of the world can have links with each other while they study

Notes provides a combination of worldwide classroom and a high-tech pen-pals' register.



Carnall: video links will be the next step

Henley students, who may be studying for a DBA (doctor of business administration), MBA or a diploma in management, have a remote version of Lotus Notes on their personal computer. They are able to send electronic mail, search databases and take part in electronic discussions led by Henley tutors. Assignments and course work can also be submitted and marked electronically.

Lotus Notes has completely changed the way in which Henley's distance learning programmes are delivered, claims Fenella Galpin, Henley's computer communications manager.

"Course materials can be updated instantly, and many more students can be supported so that servicing costs are substantially reduced," she says. "All the day-to-day administration, such as booking workshops and ordering materials, is handled through the computer."

Apart from the practical advantages of the workgroup computer programme, its networking facilities link the students and help to keep them motivated. The pressures of combining business studies with a full-time job can be formidable. Students can contact each other and share

their experiences through the User Profile section.

Okka Fraile Ordonez, who is studying for a Henley distance learning MBA, is assistant to the managing director of a consultancy in Munich. She is married and a nine-month-old daughter.

She says that she has discovered that "a young baby demands its rights". She adds: "By putting information about myself in the user profile, I hope I can find other MBA students who are working mothers so that we can support and encourage each other."

Henley students help each other through the communications network in a variety of ways outside the classroom. Recently a course member in South Africa, attempting to track down a security card company in Britain for his

organisation, put a message on the electronic notices board. He was contacted by a fellow student in Reading who lived next to the security card company and could provide its address and phone number.

New technology is rapidly becoming an essential part of business life. Lotus Notes not only provides an efficient vehicle for the programme, it is also an effective way of helping people get to grips with modern groupware and electronic communication.

For the global classroom, the next step will be video conferencing, says Professor Carnall, so that the speaker and course participants can hold discussions in locations across the world. 85 per cent of course material is still printed paper, but Professor Carnall predicts that within a decade most material will be presented in high-tech forms such as CDs or electronic transmission.

Effective management education and development take place in the world of business, not in a business school, he argues. The technology of Lotus Notes makes learning flexible and accessible to people in their place of work anywhere in the world. The global classroom has become a reality.

WIDGET FINN

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When the Pentagon asked for the papers

It is not every day that a business academic gets a request from the Pentagon for copies of his new book. But that is what happened recently to Professor David Birchall, head of the Henley Research Centre.

Details of the book, *Creating Tomorrow's Organisation*, co-authored with his Henley colleague, Dr Laurence Lyons, had caught the attention of the United States military as it patrolled the Internet for useful ideas. The story underlines how new methods of disseminating research can reach a wider audience.

Professor Birchall says: "In the past too much research carried out at business schools has sat on shelves. We try very hard to publish our findings quickly, and to get the relevant information into the hands of people who can use it."

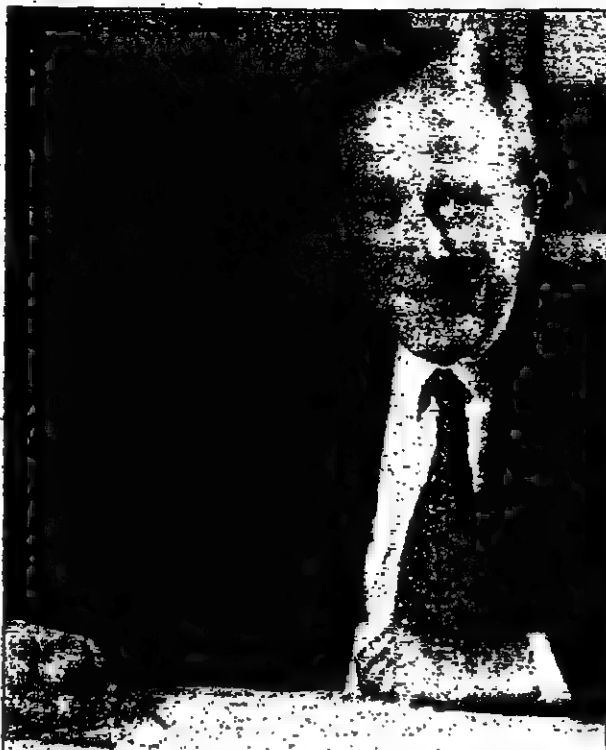
Since its establishment in 1945, Henley has had a strong dedication to research. That commitment is enshrined in the college's royal charter, which states that Henley's objectives are "to advance the education and learning in business and management studies... and to carry out research and publish useful results of such research."

For Professor Birchall, the word "useful" has particular resonance. "In business schools, as in other organisations, research has to support the business strategy and provide a useful output," he says. "At Henley, we do not set out to do esoteric research just because it would be interesting. The emphasis is on practical applications to support the needs of the business and those of our customers."

Established in 1991, the Henley Research Centre runs Henley's doctoral programme and acts as a focus for leading-edge research carried out with partner organisations around the Henley International Network.

By bringing together the academic faculty, researchers and practising managers in this way, Henley has created a research community capable

Henley's practical research is in worldwide demand and does not just gather dust on forgotten shelves, says Desmond Dearlove



Professor Birchall: got request from the US military

of undertaking well-founded and practical research with an international perspective.

Professor Birchall says: "Henley is fortunate in that it is the hub of a network of associate organisations across the world, giving access to managers and academics in many countries."

Its expertise in the design and execution of research, and strong project management capability, enables the research centre to offer a partnership approach with corporate clients. Where companies have a particular research need, for example, Henley works closely with them to plan the project.

As well as assignments for leading companies, such as

Price Waterhouse and Coopers & Lybrand, Henley carries out research sponsored by international agencies.

In one recent project, sponsored by the Department of Employment, a team of researchers at Henley, led by Professor Keith MacMillan and Dr Victor Dulewicz, worked with the Institute of Directors to produce best-practice guidelines for company directors. The consultative document published in March was based on the most comprehensive study ever conducted into the way UK companies are run and the contribution of directors.

Another recent assignment, carried out by a team of consultancy researchers at the

Henley Centre for Automotive Research (HCAR), headed by Peter Cooke, involved a project for Vauxhall. The research used focus groups and 2,000 interviews with experts to establish the expectations of the fleet market over the next four years.

Underpinning all the work at Henley is a philosophy that research should not only advance the frontiers of theoretical understanding but should have practical applications in the real world. As the Pentagon example illustrates, too, the effective dissemination of findings is a key goal.

Another important innovation involves a series of Henley forums which focus on topical business issues. The forums provide corporate members with an opportunity to discuss new ideas, learn about the latest trends and share the costs of sponsored research.

The Future Work Forum, for example, was set up in 1992 to examine the management issues involved in moving into new information technology.

Other Henley forums include knowledge-based organisations, information technology in management learning and innovation. Research in these critical areas also has direct benefits for customers.

For example, Henley has been in the vanguard of business schools working with the concept of the "electronic classroom" and has developed electronic communications systems to support distance learning. The leading networking software package Lotus Notes also provides the platform for researchers throughout the world to work together sharing ideas, and collaborating on joint projects.

According to Professor Birchall, this practical focus helps to bridge the gap between the academic and business worlds. "Research at Henley," he says, "helps organisations to improve their long-term performance, improves the college's international teaching capacity and is an important resource for the transfer of best practice."

Courses are developed to respond to the needs of business



Workshops and project assignments run alongside the core MBA syllabus and can be designed for key clients

Company MBAs are growing in popularity as more companies recognise they offer a solution to their management development needs. Sponsored by employers, company programmes give managers the opportunity to achieve the highly regarded MBA qualification, while an element of tailoring adds value to the company's investment.

Henley Management College started its first company MBA in 1986. The college now runs programmes for more than 60 organisations, making it the UK market leader. An important strength is that workshops and project assignments which run alongside the core MBA syllabus can be focused on issues relevant to sponsor firms.

Robbie Friendship, business development manager at Henley, explains: "Our company MBA programmes are more geared towards the needs of the organisation. The MBA qualification is the driving force for the individual."

Henley offers three different models of company MBAs. All are part-time and follow a modular structure using a combination of dis-

Tailor-made managers to order

distance learning and residential workshops.

For organisations wanting to deal with specific internal issues, Henley offers a single company MBA for which all participating students are drawn from a single sponsor. For example, Standard Chartered Bank's programme grew out of a strategic decision to "internationalise" its managers so that skills, expertise and knowledge could be developed globally.

Inter-company or consortium MBAs, on the other hand, involve a group of companies — usually between three and six — from a cross-section of industries. Members are grouped in syndicates according to shared aims and values which provide a practical focus running through the study modules. Ford in Europe, for example, has

operated a consortium MBA through Henley since 1993. The company has almost 50 managers on the programme, and is extending the scheme to include Ford staff in Germany.

Professor Ken Mortimer, manager of Ford's education programmes, says: "In the past, we sent high-flyers on full-time MBA courses but we found that the time away from the company and their raised expectations meant they didn't come back to Ford. In effect, we were paying for their training, but weren't getting the benefits."

"The consortium approach broadens the perspective of our managers through contact with other corporate cultures. For example, there might be five managers from Ford, five from a health authority, five from IBM and five from British Aero-

space all studying together.

"We surveyed 105 MBA suppliers and I took a group of line managers from Ford to a number of business schools before we made our choice. We didn't want managers to be away from their jobs for long periods so we came down to a number of very good distance learning programmes, of which Henley's is probably the best in the UK. Henley also has some outstandingly good lecturers and offers the right blend of formal academic discipline, distance-learning and residential workshops."

A relatively recent innovation, Henley's third model of company MBA, caters for the needs of multinational companies. Mr Friendship says: "These organisations have high-flyers who are at the height of their careers and consequently very busy. Quite apart from the logistical difficulties of taking a normal MBA, their companies may want to include study in a particular market, such as Asia/Pacific. For these people, we offer our International Consortium MBA."

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Known

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Co

The British
Army & the
and others

TODAY

Interim: Davenport Knitwear, Delyn Group, Dumyat Investment Trust, Dunlop House, Fairbairn, Kleinwort Endowment, Ross Group, Finais: Edinburgh Dragon Trust, Fleming Income & Capital, Kleinwort Second, MY Holdings, Royal Bank of Canada. Economic statistics: Gross domestic product — preliminary estimate (Q3).

TOMORROW

Interim: Broomers International, Edinburgh Investment Trust, H.F. Joel, London Securities, Ocean Wilson Holdings, Randfontein Estates, Silk Industries, Vernum Investment Trust, Yorkshire Finance, Abacus High Income Trust, London & St. Lawrence, McKeechnie, Scottish Metro, Wolsley. Economic statistics: Monthly digest of statistics (October); Confederation of British Industry industrial trends survey (October).

WEDNESDAY

Interim: Anglo St James, Clubpartners, Esmoor Dual Investment Trust, New Thromorton Trust (1983), Pentax Oil, Shifoh, Smithkline Beecham (Q3), WPP Group (Q3), Finais: Smiths Industries, Udo Holdings. Economic statistics: Gilt auction: £3 billion Treasury 6 per cent 2015; bricks and cement production and deliveries (Q3); mortgage possession actions and orders (Q3).

THURSDAY

Interim: British & American Film, Denika Business (Q2), ICI (Q3), Kleinwort Endowment, NCC Corporation, Plantation & General Investments, Toshiba Corporation, Westbury, Finais: Eurovelin, Scottish Oriental, Smaller, Majedie, Pressac Holdings, Schroeder Income Growth, Morgan Grenfell Equity, Overseas Investment Trust. Economic statistics: New earnings survey (1995) part C: analyses by industry, new vehicle registrations (September); energy trends (August).

FRIDAY

Interim: Exponent International, Midland & Scottish Resources, Seaford, Finais: Murray Enterprises. Economic statistics: Major British banking groups' mortgage lending (September); digest of agricultural census statistics for UK (1994).

ICI profit barometer set fair

ICI: The chemicals giant, chaired by Sir Ronald Hampel, is one of the biggest companies due to report in another quiet week. ICI's third-quarter figures, due on Thursday, will be watched closely by the market as the company is still seen by many as a good barometer of Britain's industrial health.

Bulk chemicals prices are substantially higher than last year, although analysts expect to hear comments about some easing in the fourth quarter. Industrial chemicals should be the star performer, while materials should also make a solid contribution to earnings growth. Paints are likely to be affected by weak consumer demand and raw material problems, while explosives will be held back by rationalisation in South Africa.

Philip Morris at Merrill Lynch expects pre-provision third-quarter pre-tax profits to advance to £235 million (£143 million), giving a nine-month total of £768 million (£393 million). Market forecasts for the quarter range from £210 million to £255 million.

SMITHS INDUSTRIES: Organic growth and acquisitions are expected to help the aerospace to medical systems group post a strong set of full-year results when it reports on Wednesday. After a solid first-half performance, Sandy Morris at NatWest Securities has pencilled in final pre-tax profits of £137 million (£117.2 million), with a dividend of 14.25p (13p) predicted. Market forecasts range from £135 million to £139 million.



Sir Ronald Hampel is expected to announce much stronger third-quarter profits at ICI

MCKECHNIE: A combination of recovery and benefits from acquisitions should allow the plastics and metal components group to reveal sharply higher annual profits when it reports tomorrow.

Tim Bennett at Albert E Sharp is looking for final pre-tax profits of £46 million (£32.7 million). A dividend of 16p (14.8p) is expected. Analysis awaits news over the group's exposure to housing in Australia and New Zealand, where there is some concern about a slowdown, while the UK

housing-related home improvement and do-it-yourself sectors remain competitive. Car production has remained firm, although there is concern it may weaken during the next few months.

WOLSELEY: The building materials group is expected to stand out in a down-trodden building supplies industry and is forecast to unveil a healthy advance in full-year profits tomorrow. Wolsley, which is the world's leading distributor of heating and plumbing products, is expected to report a jump in final pre-tax profits to £245 million (£202.3 million), according to BZW, with a dividend of 10.5p (8.4p) predicted. Market forecasts range from £245 million to £253 million.

Trading remains tough in Britain and France, but Wolsley has heavy business interests in the US and should have benefited from recovery there.

SMITHKLINE BEECHAM: The Anglo-American drugs giant is due to receive a boost from the

launch of its key Tagamet product, which combats acid, in non-prescription form in America. SKB launched Tagamet in August and early indications are that it has taken around a fifth of the antacid market in over-the-counter sales.

UBS expects third-quarter pre-tax profits, due on Wednesday, to advance to £305 million (£285 million). However, an adverse tax rate may lead to a small drop in earnings per share. Market forecasts range from £305 million to £320 million. A dividend of 3.2p (3p) is expected.

MY HOLDINGS: Today's full-year profits from the paperboard and plastics packaging group should provide evidence that the company has had its fortunes boosted by its exposure to the fast-growing pharmaceuticals packaging sector.

MY, which supplies the pharmaceutical industry with folding cartons, labels and leaflets, is expected to lift final pre-tax profits to £8.7 million (£4.5 million), according to Albert E Sharp. News is awaited on progress from last year's £22 million acquisition of PropharmaPak, a manufacturer of cartons for the drug industry.

UDO HOLDINGS: The supplier of drawing office equipment and reprographic services is expected to turn in a solid performance when it reports full-year results on Wednesday.

NatWest Securities forecasts final pre-tax profits of £5.1 million (£4.8 million), with a dividend of 9p (8p) predicted. NatWest expects the results to reflect the continuing switch in strategic focus towards the reprographic market, the first full six-month contribution from the LDO and Geoprint acquisitions and further benefits from the company's cost reduction programme. The full-year net margin is expected to improve to about 10.2 per cent, compared with 9 per cent at the interim stage and 8.7 per cent last year. The group is likely to have finished the year with about £14.5 million of net cash.

ECONOMIC OUTLOOK

GDP points way for rates

Britain's third-quarter gross domestic product figures, which open the week's indicators today, will be the focus of attention as a guide to interest-rate moves before the Budget.

Kenneth Clarke, Chancellor, has declared GDP data a key determinant for his interest-rate decisions. The evidence of slowdown in economic activity the City expects, with growth of 0.5 per cent in the quarter, may add to the case for a rate cut.

The preliminary GDP figures are forecast to show annual growth at 2.3 per cent, but the CBI's industrial trends survey on Tuesday is expected to reveal continued deceleration in manufacturing activity across Britain.

Advance third-quarter GDP figures will be the main focus of market attention across the Atlantic too. The US figures, out on Friday, are expected to show the economy gaining pace to annualised growth of about 3 per cent, up from 1.3 per cent in the second quarter. This should dispel any lingering fears of America suffering a hard landing and encourage the Federal Reserve to hold interest rates.

On Wednesday, the Bank of England will conduct its monthly gilt auction against a background of slowing economic activity. The £3 billion 8 per cent 2015 gilt auction is expected to trigger stronger demand than last month's, which was the first not to be fully covered.

The stock should attract significant interest from the life assurance industry and pension funds, analysts say. With the public sector borrowing requirement growing above target, further disappointment over the government funding programme would cause concern.

Germany's low inflation should be confirmed this week, but the policy-making council of the French central bank is unlikely to lower interest rates on Thursday, given the franc's bout of weakness last week.

COLIN NARBROUGH

SUNDAY TIPS

The Sunday Times: Buy First Leisure, Caradon, Hold Northern Water, Westbury. The Sunday Telegraph: Buy Old English Pub Company, HTV, Crecs International, Tomkins. The Observer: Hold Stakis, Rentokil, Farnell, Sell John Mowlem, Independent on Sunday, Buy DFS, OmniMedia, Premier Oil, Hold Smiths Industries. The Mail on Sunday: Buy Widney, Bluebird Toys, SIG, Sell BPB.

Chancery Division

Law Report

October 23 1995

Knowledge of trust required

Brinks Ltd v Abu-Saleh and Others (No 3)
Before Mr Justice Rimer
[Judgment October 10]

In order for a person to be liable in equity as an accessory to a breach of trust it was necessary for him to have given the relevant assistance in the knowledge of the existence of the trust or, at least, of the facts which gave rise to the trust.

Mr Justice Rimer so stated in a reserved judgment in the Chancery Division, dismissing a claim brought by Brinks Ltd, formerly Brinks' Mat Ltd, against Alan Elizabeth Elcombe, the thirteenth of 57 defendants in nine consolidated actions.

Mr Michael Tugendhat, QC, Mr Richard Parkes, Mr Richard Spearman and Mr David Parsons for Brinks; Mr Timothy Slesley and Mrs Aviva le Prevost for Mrs Elcombe.

MR JUSTICE RIMER said that Brinks had suffered a bullion robbery in which gold and other valuables worth some £26 million were stolen from its warehouse at Heathrow on November 26, 1983. It brought civil proceedings against 57 defendants who had allegedly been involved in the robbery, and subsequent laundering operations, to recover the proceeds.

During the robbery, Anthony Black, who was employed by Brinks as a security guard, had betrayed his employers by providing a key to and internal photographs of the warehouse and generally participated in the planning and execution of the robbery.

Brinks' case against Mrs Elcombe was that between August 1984 and February 1985 she assisted her husband, the twelfth defendant, in the part he played in laundering part of the proceeds of the stolen gold by carrying approximately £3 million in cash for Mr Parry, one of the convicted robbers, from England to Zurich by car. Mr Elcombe's reward for doing that was £30,000 plus expenses.

Brinks' claim against Mrs Elcombe was, inter alia, that as the gold was stolen from it with the assistance of a dishonest fiduciary, Mr Black, it had an equity to trace into the proceeds which were in the nature of trust money; that Mrs Elcombe knew that the money her husband was carrying represented proceeds of the stolen gold; that even if she did not that she at least believed that he was engaged in a dishonest transaction intended to defeat the claims of the Inland Revenue or of companies in which Mr Parry was interested; and that in those circumstances she was liable to account to Brinks in equity because of a dishonest assistance in a breach of trust.

His Lordship considered the evidence and concluded that Mrs Elcombe knew that the purpose of the six trips her husband had made had been to courier money in Zurich at Mr Parry's request. He also found that all the money was proceeds of gold stolen from Brinks and that Mr Parry knew it was.

However, insufficient evidence to the contrary obliged his Lordship to accept that Mr Elcombe

believed the money to be derived from Mr Parry's business empire and was the subject of a tax evasion exercise. His Lordship found that Mrs Elcombe also believed that to be the source of the money.

Mr Tugendhat submitted that as a result of *Royal Brunei Airlines v Philip Tan Kok Ming* ([1995] 3 WLR 64) in the Privy Council, in order to fix Mrs Elcombe with liability in equity as an accessory, all he needed to do was to prove (i) that she had rendered assistance in what, objectively assessed, was a dishonest transaction and (ii) that the transaction involved a breach of trust.

The assistance he alleged she provided was to cloak what she knew to be an illegal operation with the apparent innocence of a family holiday or, an antique buying trip, to provide an important element of cover intended to deter the suspicious from regarding the various journeys as other than commonplace and honest.

Mr Slesley disputed that Mrs Elcombe had provided any relevant assistance in furtherance of Mr Black's breach of trust on the basis of *Baden and Others v Société Générale pour Favoriser le Développement du Commerce et de l'Industrie en France SA* ([1993] 1 WLR 509).

His Lordship held that the only conclusion which he could properly draw from the evidence was that Mrs Elcombe went on the trips in the capacity of Mr Elcombe's wife. While not wishing to minimise the benefit to a

husband of being able to enjoy the company of his wife, he did not regard her presence on such trips as constituting relevant "assistance" in furtherance of the breach of trust.

Having come to that conclusion it was not strictly necessary to decide the issue as to whether or not it was sufficient to fix Mrs Elcombe with liability as an accessory to the breach of trust merely to prove that she had provided her assistance to the furtherance of a dishonest transaction, regardless of whether she knew that it involved a breach of trust or whether she also had to have had knowledge of the trust which was being breached.

His Lordship considered *Royal Brunei Airlines*, in particular p76E, and said that he did not consider that the Privy Council intended to suggest that an accessory could be made accountable to the beneficiaries as a constructive trustee regardless of whether he had any knowledge of the existence of the trust.

In *Royal Brunei Airlines* the claim was one against the director of the trustee company which had committed the breach, and he had conceded that there had been a breach of trust in which he had assisted with actual knowledge. Thus that case was one where the accessory did have the relevant knowledge.

Further, in the analysis of the basis on which accessories had in the past been held liable for assisting in breaches of trust, the judgment made it clear (at p71D-G) that the law had never gone so far as to give a beneficiary a remedy against an accessory who dealt with a trustee in ignorance that he was a trustee, or who knew that he was a trustee but had no reason to know or suspect that the transaction in which he was assisting was a breach of trust. The judgment made no suggestion that in that respect the earlier authorities were wrong.

In his Lordship's view, the judgment proceeded on the basis that a claim based on accessory liability could only be brought against someone who knew of the existence of the trust, or at least of the facts giving rise to the trust, and all that the judgment was directed at clarifying was what further was also needed to be shown in order to make the accessory liable.

The only further ingredient was dishonesty on the part of the accessory, and that was a sufficient ingredient. It was unnecessary that there should also be any dishonesty of the part of the trustee. In his Lordship's view that was all the judgment said at p76E.

But as his Lordship had already held that Mrs Elcombe's accompanying her husband was not sufficient to constitute assistance in the breach of trust, Brinks' claim against her would be dismissed.

Solicitors: Shaw & Croft; Goldkorn Davies Mathias.

No power to review order

Regina v Chester Crown Court, Ex parte Cheshire County Council and Others

The Divisional Court had no jurisdiction to grant judicial review of an order made by a crown court judge that social services files on prosecution witnesses be seen by all legal representatives to assist the court, in the absence of an amicus curiae, by allowing them to reach agreement on which documents should be disclosed, or enabling sensible argument where there was no consensus, since the crown court was exercising its jurisdiction relating to a trial on indictment within section 29(3) of the Supreme Court Act 1981.

The Queen's Bench Divisional Court (Lord Justice Rose and Mr Justice Wright) so held on October 6 when refusing an application for judicial review.

LORD JUSTICE ROSE said that it was not correct that in granting section 29(3) Parliament did not intend to exclude the supervisory jurisdiction of the Divisional Court in circumstances in which the crown court acted outside its jurisdiction, especially where there was no other remedy

to ensure the crown court acted within its jurisdiction.

The words of the section expressly excluded from the jurisdiction of the Divisional Court the crown court's jurisdiction in matters relating to trial on indictment. The section did not say "the way in

which jurisdiction is exercised" or a formula of similar effect.

If Parliament intended that a crown court, purporting to exercise jurisdiction it did not have, be subject to judicial review, one would have expected Parliament to say so.

His Lordship said that since he did not accept the plaintiff's primary submission, that in 1990 and 1991 the plaintiff association had also enjoyed exclusive reputation and goodwill in the names "British Diabetic Society" and "Diabetic Society" as well as in the names "British Diabetic Association" and "Diabetic Association", he ordered the defendants to pay only three-quarters of the plaintiff's costs.

His Lordship said that since he did not accept the plaintiff's primary submission, that in 1990 and 1991 the plaintiff association had also enjoyed exclusive reputation and goodwill in the names "British Diabetic Society" and "Diabetic Society" as well as in the names "British Diabetic Association" and "Diabetic Association", he ordered the defendants to pay only three-quarters of the plaintiff's costs.

Confusing names

The British Diabetic Association v The Diabetic Society and Others

The words "association" and "society" being very similar in derivation and meaning, and being not dissimilar in form, it would amount to, albeit unintended, deception, calculated to damage the reputation and goodwill of The British Diabetic Association, for The Diabetic Society to continue to use that name.

Mr Justice Robert Walker so held in the Chancery Division on October 13, in making an order, inter alia, restraining the defendants, The Diabetic Society, Arthur Bennett and Gillian Mary Aldin, from (i) using the name or mark "The Diabetic Society", "The British Diabetic Society", "Di-



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Gucci gets its debut price today

Shares in Gucci, the luxury goods company, will be priced at between \$19 and \$22 today, with dealings getting under way on the New York Stock Exchange tomorrow.

The share offer is expected to raise about \$500 million. Strong interest has encouraged investors, the group that owns Gucci, to increase the sale by 8.5 million shares to 24.5 million.

Gucci had net income of \$24.8 million on sales of \$206.2 million in the first half of 1995, up sharply from \$4.7 million on sales of \$110.2 million.

Opel denial

Adam Opel, the German subsidiary of General Motors, denied a report in *Focus*, the German news magazine, claiming the carmaker was defrauded out of several million marks in falsified sales orders from dealers. *Focus* said several dealers between 1992 and 1995 defrauded Opel by manipulating vehicle orders to receive sales premiums. An Opel official denied the report but said the company did find that some premiums were improperly paid to some dealers after a review of 435,000 orders during the period.

Kuwait find

The state Kuwait Oil Company has discovered new oil reservoirs with an estimated 350 million barrels, said Abdul Mohsen al-Mada'ni, the oil minister. He said the new reservoirs in Kras al-Marzu in western Kuwait contained light, high-density crude.



Kenneth Gray toasts his new water pumping equipment driven by solar power that could become a success in Third World countries

Shortage of labour hits nearly half of exporters

By Eric Regan

ALMOST half of British exporters have difficulty in finding suitable employees during a period of intensifying international competition, a study released this morning says.

The DHL Quarterly Export Indicator, conducted by the Gallup Organization, said that 46 per cent of 904 companies surveyed found it "either very or fairly difficult" to fill vacancies.

The biggest shortages, in order, were in skilled manual labour, engineering, unskilled manual labour and sales.

Exporters in the textiles industry had the hardest time recruiting workers, almost three-quarters said they could not find suitable manual labourers. Engineering businesses also reported enormous difficulties in finding the right workers.

Ian Campbell, director-general of the Institute of Export, said during the recession businesses had slashed their training budgets. "To succeed against stiff international competition, these must be reinstated," he said. Training or not, many workers simply were not available. They

either took early retirement or found other occupations in the recession and exporters were finding it nearly impossible to entice them back.

Mr Campbell said that generally low salaries had contributed to the job problems. He said: "Traditionally, exporting has not been highly paid."

He thinks the shortages will put upward pressure on salaries. The latest pay study by the Confederation of British Industry, however, concludes that pay awards are not moving up. Manufacturing pay awards averaged 3.5 per cent in the three months to September, compared with 3.4 per cent in the three months to June. The businesses in that sector said their inability to raise prices has put a cap on payment increases. In the service sector it was 3.4 per cent against 3.5 per cent.

Pay settlement levels could rise further if inflation does not fall back before the end of the year, Incomes Data Services (IDS), the independent pay analysts, says today.

IDS says that although most private sector payments are running at 3 per cent to 4 per cent, with public sector deals lagging behind at 2 to 3 per cent, it suggests the recent jump in headline inflation to 3.9 per cent has yet to make itself felt. It is likely to do so, however, as employers and unions prepare for the key bargaining month of January, now the single most important month for private sector manufacturing deals in particular.

Graham Searjeant, page 42

Inventor uses sun to pump water

By COLIN NARBROUGH

A SMALL West Country engineering company could soon start to take the agony out of carrying water for millions of people in the Third World with a solar pump designed and developed by Kenneth Gray, a Hampshire inventor.

Driven solely by the power of the sun, the low-maintenance, low-cost prototype, which has a solar panel area of 2 square metres, can pump up to 1,000 gallons a day under average tropical conditions from depths of up to 27 feet.

Gray Solar Pumps, Mr Gray's company, has plans for a range of pumps employing the same principle, which could pump up to 20,000 gallons per day.

Initial production will be carried out by Haviland Engineering based in Ferndown, Dorset, which has joined in the development work. So far, the pump has cost only £150,000 to develop, and much of the funding has come from Government awards.

Graham Searjeant, page 42

Survey charts fast changes in job market

By PHILIP BASSETT, INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

LABOUR turnover — the movement of people into and out of jobs — is now running at an average of about 12 per cent in spite of still-high unemployment, new figures suggest today.

Turnover among part-timers is running at almost three times that rate, the study suggests in findings which will be welcomed by supporters of the Government's policy of promoting labour market flexibility as evidence of labour mobility and by opponents as clear evidence of job insecurity.

Britain's personnel managers will meet in Harrogate this week for the annual conference of the Institute of Personnel and Development (IPD). In advance of that, the institute tries, for the first time, to measure labour turnover across the economy.

Based on a survey of 2,000 personnel managers in 211 public and private sector organisations with a combined workforce of 500,000, the survey sets the number of people leaving their employers, not including internal transfers,

against the average number of employees.

The IPD study, which the institute now intends to conduct annually, finds that the average turnover for 1994 was 12 per cent for full-time workers and 14.4 per cent for non-manual employees.

For part-timers the rates are considerably higher — 31 per cent for white collar part-timers and 33 per cent for manual workers. Average turnover cost per employee may be about £12,500.

While the institute accepts that labour turnover can help organisations, excessively high turnover may be "dysfunctional" and a consequence of low job satisfaction, negative job attitudes, and an ability to find employment elsewhere.

The institute's study shows that the highest turnover is among sales and unskilled employees. Turnover is highest in the hotel and catering sector and in retailing, both high users of part-time labour, where the rates are 48 per cent and 34 per cent respectively.

SIB fears rebate-only pensions mis-sold

By CAROLINE MERRELL

ABOUT 20 of the UK's biggest insurance companies have been asked by the Securities & Investments Board (SIB), the chief City regulator, to supply information about personal pensions where the only contribution is the rebate of National Insurance contributions supplied by the Department of Social Security.

The regulator fears that many people may have been misled by these rebate-only pensions. In some cases, the charges on plans outstrip any benefits they offer, particularly for those on low earnings. SIB is also concerned that unless policyholders top

up these schemes with more contributions, they will not provide enough income in retirement.

SIB has asked companies to supply data about their rebate-only personal pension business and is working with the Department of Social Security on the problem. It is hoping to produce a report on its findings before the end of the year.

The report could mean that companies have to review their rebate-only pensions business in the same way as they are currently reviewing their transfer and opt-out personal pension business.

Investors face lottery factor

The gilt market has performed poorly in recent weeks. The Chancellor looks ready to deliver tax cuts in next month's Budget, despite the public sector borrowing requirement looking set to exceed the forecast £23.5 billion by about £5 billion.

Gilt investors are right to be concerned. The overshoot in public borrowing has occurred despite two developments which have benefited government finances. First, despite slower than expected GDP growth, unemployment is turning out lower than the Chancellor expected when he formulated his spending

plans. Second, the National Lottery, the PSBR, the lottery distribution fund has been slow to distribute the cash to "good causes". This suggests that the underlying fiscal position is worse than it appears. In the first six months of the fiscal year, departmental spending has grown faster than the planned increase. However, this spending overshoot cannot be blamed on slow growth. When the spending plans were made, the Chancellor assumed that unemployment would average 2.5 million this year. The average thus far has been 2.3 million, which should reduce social security spending by £600 million in a full year.

The impact of the lottery on the PSBR has been ignored by analysts, probably because in the medium term the impact should be negligible. However, in the first half of the fiscal year, the National Lottery has reduced the PSBR by about £700 million, because of the large amount of cash temporarily held by the lottery distribution fund.

After expenses, the fund allocates the money equally to the Arts Council, the Sports Council, the Charities Board, the National Heritage Memorial Fund, and the Millennium Fund. They disburse the money to "good causes".

The lottery distribution fund is part of the government sector. Thus, the money which goes into the fund is counted as general government revenue and the spending on "good causes" as general government expenditure. Owing to this classification in the national accounts, in June the Chancellor introduced a measure of government spending which he will aim to control, which excludes the lottery, which he will aim to control.

He argued that the Government has no control over how much money the lottery distribution fund has to spend, since it is determined by how many lottery tickets are purchased.

After the lottery has been running for a while, the inflow into the distribution fund will be matched by spending on "good causes" so there will be no impact on the PSBR. Both government receipts and spending will be higher than they would have been if the lottery did not exist, but the Government's new target for spending (GGE-X) will be unaffected.

From last November, when the lottery began, to the end of September, about £1 billion has flowed into the lottery distribution fund, but only about £50 million has so far been disbursed, so the PSBR has been temporarily reduced by almost £1 billion. Last year's PSBR was reduced by £300 million by this effect, and the PSBR in the first six months of this fiscal year has been reduced by £700 million.

This flatter of the PSBR by £1 billion is only temporary because the money in the lottery distribution fund will eventually be spent. But as the money is distributed this will boost government spending, and the PSBR.

These two special factors suggest that the Government's fiscal position is even worse than it appears at first sight, and the initial appearance is not too bright. The risk is that the under-performance in the gilt market has further to run, especially if the Chancellor presents a politically appealing, but economically risky, Budget next month.

DAVID MACKIE
J. P. Morgan

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4 Nts NILE CRUISE; aboard 5* M/S RA visiting Luxor, Thebes, Edfu, Kom Ombo, Assuan, Philae; then 2 Nts Cairo, followed by 5 Nts SAFARI: 1 Nt Nairobi, 1 Nt Treetops, 1 Nt Lake Naivasha, 2 Nts Masai Mara

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	Bank	Bank
Australia \$	2.21	2.04
Austria Sch	16.69	15.19
Belgium Fr	48.76	44.42
Canada C\$	2.215	2.059
Cypriot Cyp£	0.748	0.693
Denmark Kr	8.44	8.44
Finland Mk	7.25	6.50
France Fr	6.21	7.25
Germany DM	2.17	2.17
Greece Dr	352.00	357.00
Hong Kong \$	11.81	11.81
India Rupee	1.35	1.35
Israel Shk	5.1142	4.4942
Italy Lit	2025.00	2400.00
Japan Yen	172.50	136.50
Malta	0.669	0.641
Netherlands Gld	2.042	2.042
New Zealand \$	2.53	2.31
Norway Kr	10.35	9.50
Portugal Esc	200.48	227.00
Spain Ptas	166.50	166.50
Sweden Kr	11.27	10.47
Switzerland Fr	1.95	1.77
Taiwan Nts	1.972	1.942
USA \$	1.972	1.942

Rates for small denomination bank notes only as supplied by Barclays Bank. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques. Rates as at close of trading on Friday.

WHO-WATCHING

Answers from page 35

SITHA
(b) Or sitha, reproductions of dialect pronunciations of see thou, used especially as an interjection to draw attention or as a conversation filler. Rudyard Kipling, *Limits & Renewals*, 1932: "She's proud of herself — Sitha! She's trying to admire of her own belly!"

ZAC
(b) Australian slang for a sixpence, when they had such a coin, origin unknown.

URANISM
(a) Homosexuality, from the Greek *Ourania*, Latin *Urania*, the heavenly one, an epithet of Aphrodite.

SEHNSUCHT
(c) Yearning, wistful longing, a German word. J. I. M. Stewart, *Palace of Art*, 1972: "The stickiest romance of all attends, of course, upon gondolas by moonlight, and Gloria felt she must by no means counter or abridge this small enclave of adolescent Sehnsucht in her almost undeviatingly rational friend."

SOLUTION TO WINNING CHESS MOVE
Black wins with 1... Rxb3+ 2 gxb3 Qxb3 mate.

This notice is issued in compliance with the requirements of The International Stock Exchange of the United Kingdom and the Republic of Ireland Limited (the "London Stock Exchange"). It does not constitute an invitation to the public to subscribe for, or purchase, any securities in New Burford plc (the "Company"). Application has been made to the London Stock Exchange for the securities mentioned below to be admitted to the Official List and it is expected that admission of the Official List will become effective and that dealings will commence at 8.30 am on 27 November 1995.

NEW BURFORD plc

(Incorporated in England and Wales, registered number 3085922)

Introduction to the Official List of the entire share capital of 297,394,200 ordinary shares of 1p each

sponsored by

Barclays de Zoete Wedd Limited

The listing particulars relating to the Company, were published on 20 October 1995 and copies may be obtained during normal business hours up to and including 31 October 1995 (for collection only) from the Company Announcements Office, London Stock Exchange Tower, Capel Court, off Bartholomew Lane, London, EC2N 1HP and during normal business hours up to and including 5 December 1995 from the registered office of the Company at 20 Thayer Street, London, W1M 6DD and from Barclays de Zoete Wedd Limited, Ebbgate House, 2 Swan Lane, London, EC4R 3TS.

23 October 1995

Nice drama, shame about the scheduling

A terrible rotten trick, to schedule *Cracker* (ITV) against *Pride and Prejudice*. Isn't it bad enough that we wait for drama of this quality? *Cracker* is in every living room, remote controls stamped and crushed underfoot, *Radio Times* drowned in a bucket, "I'm going home to mother!" — and all down to the sheer thoughtlessness of Network Centre.

Had Penhaligon shot Jimmy Beck? Friends departing for America last week told me to ring as soon as I knew. Pale, fragile Geraldine, Somerville, sitting astride creepy Lorcan Cranitch, holding the revolver to his mouth — well, the techbook at the last *Cracker* climax had been telling people like crazy. A glance at the cast list reassured us that Beck was still alive, damn it. But then most people will agree: Beck deserves a fate worse than death, even if he didn't commit the rape.

As a hate figure, he is a great creation from Jimmy McGovern, dangerously weak but also gaucy, so that he may be overestimated and underestimated at the same time. Cranitch is brilliant in the part. Mental instability suits him, horribly well. He takes shifts into new dimensions.

The new story, *Brotherly Love*, concerns sex crimes again. Robbie Cotnam is now a consulting detective, à la Sherlock Holmes. It is extraordinary how we have all come to believe in the psychologist as infallible hero: Fitz's gun-style authority is preposterous, really. At the scene of a prostitute murder, he wearily rattles off the significant factors ("Why a chisel? Was it lying about? No, there's no rust on it. Is he a joiner?") while the police make notes, mute. In no time at all, Fitz has pinpointed the factor which precipitated this murder — "What if the punter can't pay?" This inspiration comes from no-

where. Perhaps he has started dabbling with the psychic arts as well. Meanwhile the gang is back, the directing is superb (Roy Battersby), and the paradox of the comforting detective story is pushed to its extreme. Classic crime stories offer consolation; they suggest we are protected against evil by logic. *Cracker* posits the most comforting notion of all: even dangerous lunatics can be sorted out, if the right fat man asks the right questions. Bliss.

But escapism can take many forms, and Saturday night's *An Audience with Shirley Bassey* (ITV) has its place in heaven, too. Bassey looked so phenomenally good for her age that I found myself mentally revising modern history. In an effort to place her around 30, I just hope this Cuban missile crisis doesn't come to anything. The "audience with" format is



Lynne Truss

ghostly, of course. The scripted questions from enthusiastic guest celebrities — such as, "How did you get those arms, Shirley?" and "Will you sing *Something by George Harrison* please?" — are a big crime, and the peering of the house with LWT faces gets on one's nerves. I am impressed that they resist the urge to flash "MAX BYGRAVES" and "DEREK NIMMO" on the screen; it is the

logical next step. But the celebrity appreciation show often deliciously backfires, in any case, since the camera has a knack of picking on people at a moment when they look deeply puzzled, or have just remembered they left the iron on. Shirley modelled three fabulous frocks, and ended with a feather box of enormous proportions. Anyone watching on and thinking this was a rather unvaried edition of *Stars in Their Eyes* will have been fully impressed by the consistently faithful Shirley Bassey impersonation, every lyrical inflection being precisely the same as it always is. Still, it was an event. It's not often you see teeth that good, let alone the biceps. "You're the sexiest grandmother I've ever seen in my life," said Jimmy Tarbuck (JIMMY TARBUCK), to great applause. Oh what tacky stuff.

An exciting moment in Friday's *Jancis Robinson's Wine Course* (BBC2). An Austrian wine cellar,

dimly lit, Jancis sampling Riesling during its fermentation. The winemaker warns her there is not much oxygen in this cellar, and she starts to find she is short of breath. Will she collapse? The winemaker pants. Jancis samples a glass and tories slightly. He suggests they leave. And that's it. If she had only allowed herself to pass out, it would have made television history. Even better if the cameraman had crashed sideways into a barrel and Jancis had screamed for help. But no. Some people have no idea.

Actually, *Jancis Robinson's Wine Course* (now about halfway through) is thoroughly good television. Each programme tells a fascinating story, and the photography is beautiful. The greatest achievement, however, is to personalise wine-making. Jancis travels the world meeting blokes (surprisingly few with big hooters) who make wine,

talk about wine, drink wine, and sometimes flake out in their own cellars. She makes no bones about preferring the ancient art to the modern science, but she always applauds the impulse. If she ever comes to your house, however, here is a tip: hide the chardonnay behind the shed.

What else? Well, Lydia has run off with Wickham, that's all in last night's *Pride and Prejudice* (BBC1). Mrs Bennet (Aileen Steadman) took a whiff from a smelling bottle and recoiled as though shocked, and Elizabeth realised she loved Darcy as they exchanged lingering smiles across a Pemberley piano. "I cannot bear to think that he is alive in the world and thinking ill of me," Oh Lizzy. I do hope things turn out for the best!

● Making the Car Laugh, a collection of Lynne Truss's columns on single life, is published this week by Hamish Hamilton, £10.99

REVIEW

CHOICE



A search for life after GCSE (C4, 6.30pm)

Hollyoaks Channel 4, 6.30pm
Having invented *Grange Hill* and *Brookside*, Phil Redmond now deals with the age group in between. The heroes and heroines of his new drama are kids in the late teens, past GCSE but not yet settled into the adult world. The opening episode creates some sort of record by being wordless for five minutes. Since a blazing car is at the heart of the sequence, we are immediately gripped. From the initial skirmishes it seems that much of the narrative will concern the joys and otherwise of girlfriends and boyfriends, but as the cast is exceptionally good looking you can understand why the characters should fancy each other. So far the tone is relatively benign but Redmond's sharp-edged dialogue is a warning not to be fooled.

Castling Edge: Deception Channel 4, 9.00pm
Nina Stanfield and Simon Marsh suffer from Munchausen's disorder, a personality defect which makes them invent illnesses in order to be admitted to hospital. Stanfield, a former nurse, has made more than 500 hospital visits in her 41 years and most of them were for bogus complaints. The condition goes further than that: Stanfield and Marsh never marry? The best quote comes from P.D. James, who says the novels are Mills and Boon written by a genius.

Omish: Presumption BBC1, 10.40pm
Randall Wright's workmanlike and reverential trawl through the life of Jane Austen might have been more usefully screened before the start of *Pride and Prejudice*, rather than towards its end. But scheduling has its own particular mysteries. The film adds nothing to the existing sum of knowledge, and recent revisionism that suggests Jane might have been an incestuous lesbian is briefly raised and quickly stamped upon. Otherwise the programme explores the familiar questions. How could such a brilliant writing talent have emerged from a narrow, isolated, and provincial life? And why did Jane never marry? The best quote comes from P.D. James, who says the novels are Mills and Boon written by a genius.

Face to Face: Norman Mailer BBC2, 11.15pm
The erstwhile bar-room brawler of American letters goes the distance with Jeremy Isaacs and wins convincingly. A celebrity from the age of 25, when *The Naked and the Dead* became an immediate success, Mailer has long been a regular on the talk show circuit and it shows. He has an answer for everything and often throws in wit as well. Good to see that he is always glib or fails to give good answers. Whether he is talking about his life in literature or his over-protective mother, Mailer is fluent and witty. The only question he deflects is about his treatment of his former wives. He says Picasso treated his women even worse. Picasso happens to be the subject of his latest book. Peter Waymark

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CARTON

6.00am GMTV (7541323)
9.25am Supermarket Sweep: quiz show (s) (5122149)
9.55am London Today (Teletext) (1650033)
10.00am The Time... The Place (s) (583014)
10.35am This Morning magazine show (3993451)
12.20pm London Today (Teletext) (4107659)
12.30pm News (Teletext) and weather (551014)
12.55am Home and Away (Teletext) (5560033)
1.25pm Coronation Street (Teletext) (2236388)
1.55pm Shortland Street (Teletext) (5162058)
2.20pm Blue Heelers: Luck of the Draw (568014)
3.20pm ITN News headlines (Teletext) (5288897)
3.25pm London Today (Teletext) (5418688)
3.30pm The Slow Motion (s) (4737323)
3.40pm Total TV (s) (1528655) 3.50pm Wolves, Witches and Goblins (4748438) 4.05pm Sooty and Co (814894)
4.30pm Where's Wally? (2290255)
4.50pm How To (5673472)
5.10pm After 5 With Mary Nightingale (1688781)
5.40pm News (Teletext) and weather (519439)
5.55pm Your Show: Viewers' opinions (389781)
6.00pm Home and Away (Teletext) (558)
6.30pm London Tonight (Teletext) (236)
7.00pm The Krypton Factor (Teletext) (s) (8743)



Bill Tarmey and Elizabeth Dawn (7.30pm)

7.30pm Coronation Street: The Duckworths want to make a good impression at the brewery. (Teletext) (120)
8.00pm Bruce's Price is Right (Teletext) (s) (7491)
8.30pm World in Action: This year there will be fewer weddings in Britain than at any time since the Second World War and nearly two out of five children are now being born out of wedlock. World in Action has commissioned a nationwide poll, asking whether marriage is becoming an outdated institution in Britain. (Teletext) (s) (5528)
9.00pm Cracker: Brotherly Love (Part 2 of 3). A second murder takes place while the chief suspect for the first is in custody. (Teletext) (s) (5174)
10.00pm ITN News at Ten (Teletext) and weather (83556)
10.30pm London Tonight (Teletext) (38236)
10.40pm The Good Sex Guide Abroad (Teletext) (102255)
11.10pm Traps: Retirement Party (s) (973781)
11.20pm Short Story Cinema (873556)
12.40pm Endstage: Live Extra (7974502)
1.25pm Sport AM (3973095)
2.20pm Quiz Night (7973368)
2.45pm FILM: Please, Let the Flowers Live (1986). A French lawyer believes late has given him a second chance when he survives an air crash. He decides to start a new life with Klaus-Jürgen Wussow, Birgit Doll, Hans-Jürgen Elmer and directed by Duccio Tassi (1986).
4.25pm On the Life Side (s) (20605057)
4.30pm Best of British Movie (24687518)
4.55pm The Crystal Ball Show (s) (5113599)
5.30pm ITN Morning News: Ends at 6.00 (36892)

CHANNEL 4

6.35am Heathcliff (s) (4693410)
7.00pm The Big Breakfast (82052)
9.00pm Subotage: Quiz for women (s) (83033)
9.30pm Mork and Mindy (s) (28217)
10.00pm Saved by the Bell: The New Class. Screach is scared of donating his blood (s) (1568052)
10.25pm The Legend of White Fang (s) (3874897)
10.50pm The Pink Panther Show (s) (312762)
11.15pm Little Shop (s) (514191) 11.40pm Dennis (2070781)
11.50pm Tarrantines (2078965)
12.00pm Australia Wild: The wombat (13887)
12.30pm Sesame Street: With Julia Roberts (97236)
1.30pm Gumpod followed by Now the Engine. The Magic Roundabout and Roobarb (9161743)
1.50pm The Vertical Load: A freight operator suffers from horizontal dreams (2570141) 1.55pm Slope. A woman becomes romantically involved with a statue (91637878)
2.15pm FILM: The Real Glory (1936, b/w). Harry Hawthley's action-adventure starring Gary Cooper as an army doctor caring for Filipinos in the aftermath of the American-Spanish War (Teletext) (580149)
4.00pm Think Tank: Quiz. (Teletext) (s) (149)
4.30pm Fifteen to One (Teletext) (s) (753)
5.00pm Golden Girls (s) (Teletext) (s) (8148)
5.30pm Nurses (s) (Teletext) (s) (385)
6.00pm Roseanne: American sitcom (588)
6.30pm FILM: Hollyoaks (Teletext) (s) (578)
7.00pm Channel 4 News (Teletext) (368878)
7.55pm The Slot: Viewers' video soapbox (42204)
8.00pm Desperately Seeking Something: McCarthy's Witch Hunt. The second of a four-part exploration of alternative beliefs by Peter McCarthy. (Teletext) (s) (5033)
8.30pm Baby It's Your Word of Mouth. How newborn babies transform their first gurgles and whimpers into effective storytelling as two-year-olds (s) (Teletext) (s) (4168)



Nina Stanfield takes illness (9.00pm)

9.00pm Cutting Edge: Deception. (Teletext) (s) (528)
10.00pm Homicide: Life on the Street. Baltimore police drama series. (Teletext) (s) (9539410)
11.05pm The American Football Big Match. Gary Lynch presents coverage of the AFC game between Kansas City Chiefs and the Broncos in Denver, while the Minnesota Vikings meet the Green Bay Packers in the NFC Central (s) (282528)
12.20pm Trans World Sport (s) (6203347)
1.25pm Evening Shade: The Resurrection of Wood Newton. American comedy series starring Bud Reynolds and Mark Hamill (s) (2182375)
1.55pm FILM: The Big Lie (1950, b/w). Director George Seaton's post-Second World War drama about the Berlin airlift gains in realism by the on-location photography. Montgomery Clift and Paul Douglas star as sparring American pilots, running the Soviet blockade and romancing the local women (14693347). Ends at 4.05

BBC1

6.00am Business Breakfast (56551)
7.00am BBC Breakfast News (5660255)
9.05am Kilroy (s) (7272584)
10.00pm News (Teletext) and weather (5806472)
10.05pm Housewives (s) (1662878) 10.35pm Good Morning with Anne and Nick (s) (1796107) 12.00pm News (Teletext) regional news and weather (4101575)
12.05pm Pebble Mill (s) (7413507)
12.50pm Regional News (78419573)
1.00pm One O'Clock News (Teletext) and weather (58101)
1.30pm Neighbours (Teletext) (s) (4738948)
1.55pm Knots Landing (s) (7605223)
2.40pm The Clothes Show (s) (Teletext) (s) (7648472)
3.05pm The Great British Quiz (s) (8225878)
3.30pm Philbert the Frog (s) (s) (1548052) 3.35pm Cuckoo (s) (s) 3.45pm Dear Mr. Barker (s) (4721752)
4.00pm Alvin and the Chipmunks (s) (9349168)
4.10pm Phantom 2040 (Teletext) (s) (1593878)
4.35pm Grange Hill (s) (Teletext) (s) (2284410)
5.00pm Newsround (Teletext) (9447830)
5.10pm Blue Peter (Teletext) (s) (2738385)
5.35pm Neighbours (s) (Teletext) (s) (589897) Northern Ireland: Inside Ulster News
6.00pm Six O'Clock News (Teletext) and weather (588)
6.30pm Regional News magazine (168) Northern Ireland: Neighbours
7.00pm Telly Addict: Quiz show for television addicts. The Unimentioners from Warrington play Four's Company from Southend. Specialised rounds on St. Elsewhere and Dynasty (Teletext) (s) (3675)
7.30pm Watchdog: Consumer magazine. (Teletext) (s) (102)
8.00pm EastEnders: Robbie's quiet night in goes wrong. Michelle is forced to think twice about her plans and Ian prepares for the pub quiz showdown. (Teletext) (s) (2232)
8.30pm 2point4 Children: Sit-com with Gary Olsen and Belinda Lang, Julia Hills and Clare Buckfield. (Teletext) (s) (1830)
9.00pm Nine O'Clock News (Teletext) regional news and weather (5878)
9.30pm Panorama: Should Spending be Banned? Studio debate with present and former champions, Frank Whitten and Nicky Cliff. (Teletext) (s) (1632)
10.10pm Billy Connolly's World Tour of Goodness and in Edinburgh (s) (Teletext) (s) (403014)



A celebration of Jane Austen (10.40pm)

10.40pm Omnibus: Presentation — The Life of Jane Austen. (Teletext) (s) (651897)
11.30pm Film 9½ with Barry Norman. Featuring Nicole Kidman as an ambitious television weather woman in *To Die For*, and as a hacker intent on destroying the East Coast of America in Steven Seagal's *Under Siege 2*, and Kevin Kline and Meg Ryan in the romantic comedy *French Kiss*. Barry Norman interviews Tony Scott, the director of *Criminal Minds* (Teletext) (s) (93472)
12.00pm Snooker — Grand Prix. Highlights of the third round (s) (48892)
1.00am Weather (5655078) Wales: News headlines (5655078) and weather

BBC2

5.00am Technology Season: Wall To Wall (30236) 6.30pm Heavenly Bodies (57878)
7.00am BBC Breakfast News (Teletext) (s) (7360269) 7.15pm Lasse (2110566) 7.35pm Pirates of Dark Water (s) (9861743) 8.00pm Blue Peter (s) (3914267)
8.25pm Songs Of Praise (s) (Teletext) (s) (384812)
9.00pm Daytime on Two. Educational programmes. Plus, for children, 10.00-10.25pm Playdays (1640556)
2.00pm Brum (s) (1228656)
2.10pm Taurus. Highlights of the final of the Brighton Ladies' championship (s) (260743)
3.00pm News (Teletext) and weather (5170307)
3.05pm Snooker: The Snooker Grand Prix (s) (5890528)
3.55pm News (Teletext) and weather (5171123)
4.00pm Today's Day (s) (781)
4.30pm Snooker from Sunderland (s) (52888)
5.00pm Space: Practise. Gerry Anderson's science-fiction police series. (Teletext) (s) (45438)
5.45pm The O Zone. Pop music magazine (s) (567884)
7.00pm People's Century. The impact of Henry Ford's moving car-assembly line, introduced in Detroit in 1924 (s) (Teletext) (s) (384410)
7.55pm Close Up. The director John Deane selects a scene from *Orson Welles' Touch of Evil* (s) (46729)
8.00pm The Big Lottery Handbook. How the decisions are reached about who most deserves the money made by the lottery. (Teletext) (s) (87485)
8.30pm Paul Smith. The British fashion designer deplores the extent to which British talent is neglected at home but exploited abroad (s) (388448)
9.00pm The X-Files: Firewalker. Science-fiction drama series. (Teletext) (s) (881675)
9.45pm Kicking and Screaming: The Golden Age. British football in the 1930s and 1940s, recalled by Tom Finney, Tommy Lawton, Nat Lofthouse and Sir Stanley Matthews. (Teletext) (s) (354323)
10.30pm Newsnight with Peter Snow. (Teletext) (607101)



Norman Mailer comes out fighting (11.15pm)

11.15pm Face to Face With Norman Mailer (s) (592955)
11.55pm Weather (949146)
12.00pm The Midnight Hour with Sir Bernard Ingham. Political chat (s) (46637)
12.30am-6.00am The Learning Zone: Open University — Forecasting the Economy (12724) 1.00pm Counting the Cost: The Eurovision Song Contest (85811) 1.30pm Employment (77778) 2.00pm Nightwatch: Access To Learning — Go For It (56453) 4.00pm BBC Focus: Developing Family Library (52618) 4.30pm DDI Special (73078) 5.00pm Pathways To Care (55182) 5.30pm RSN Nursing Update (45386)

VideoPlayer and the Video PlusCode
The response to each TV programme listing is Video PlusCode — a number which allows you to programme your video recorder to receive a particular programme. The code is printed in the Video PlusCode box on the programme you wish to record. For more information on how to use the Video PlusCode system, see the Video PlusCode box on the programme you wish to record. For more information on how to use the Video PlusCode system, see the Video PlusCode box on the programme you wish to record. For more information on how to use the Video PlusCode system, see the Video PlusCode box on the programme you wish to record.

VARIATIONS

ANGLIA
As London except: 12.55pm Coronation Street (565029) 1.25pm Home and Away (2226528) 1.55pm-2.30pm Country Practice (5162388) 3.10pm-3.40pm Shortland Street (168271) 3.55pm-4.25pm Coronation Street (565029) 4.30pm-5.00pm The Good Sex Guide Abroad (758438) 5.10pm-5.40pm The Time of the Plover (758438) 5.45pm-6.15pm The Good Sex Guide Abroad (758438) 6.15pm-6.45pm The Time of the Plover (758438) 6.45pm-7.15pm The Good Sex Guide Abroad (758438) 7.15pm-7.45pm The Time of the Plover (758438) 7.45pm-8.15pm The Good Sex Guide Abroad (758438) 8.15pm-8.45pm The Time of the Plover (758438) 8.45pm-9.15pm The Good Sex Guide Abroad (758438) 9.15pm-9.45pm The Time of the Plover (758438) 9.45pm-10.15pm The Good Sex Guide Abroad (758438) 10.15pm-10.45pm The Time of the Plover (758438) 10.45pm-11.15pm The Good Sex Guide Abroad (758438) 11.15pm-11.45pm The Time of the Plover (758438) 11.45pm-12.15pm The Good Sex Guide Abroad (758438) 12.15pm-12.45pm The Time of the Plover (758438) 12.45pm-1.15am The Good 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MONDAY OCTOBER 23 1995

BUSINESS EDITOR LINDSAY COOK

ITC in disarray over naming of Channel 5 winner

BY MARTIN WALLER

THE Independent Television Commission has failed to reach agreement over the identity of the bidder that will operate Channel 5, which is due to start broadcasting at the beginning of 1997.

A meeting of the ITC broke up in apparent disarray last week, leaving the commission unable to give the thumbs-up to UKTV, a consortium dominated by Canadian interests that has outbid its main rivals.

UKTV has bid £36.3 million to operate Channel 5 and is regarded as the most likely candidate, outbidding two nearest runners-up by more than £10 million a year. But

the ITC board meeting last Thursday was not followed by a firm decision.

Industry observers believed that UKTV had been in talks with the ITC over the past three weeks and it was thought to have convinced the commission on key issues of financing, programming and ownership.

UKTV had thought that earlier doubts about the consortium's overwhelming foreign ownership, approaching 90 per cent if minority holdings of the constituent companies are taken into account, and about its financial stability given the high value of the bid had been overcome. The consortium was therefore on notice for a formal award of the licence as early as last Friday. But it is

believed the possible takeover of SelectTV, the independent production company that has 20 per cent of UKTV, may have delayed the award of the licence. SelectTV, responsible for TV hits such as *Birds of a Feather* and *Lovejoy*, announced an approach from an unnamed bidder ten days ago.

Any change of ownership of such a significant shareholder in the consortium might force the ITC to think again. It has until the end of next month to award the licence, and sources insist the deadline will be met.

are a consortium led by the media groups Pearson and MAI and one fronted by Richard Branson's Virgin Group. Both bid £22.002 million for the licence.

If UKTV is disqualified because of the uncertainty surrounding SelectTV, the two would be allowed to submit alternative tenders, but other entrants would not be allowed to re-bid. Under these circumstances, the Pearson/MAI consortium is thought to have the edge.

"It's all extremely frustrating, because people don't know if they have jobs or not," said a source close to one of the other bidders. Industry speculation was of a disagreement between the executive board of

the ITC, chaired by Sir George Russell, and lay members appointed from the industry.

The question of programming costs has apparently already been settled. UKTV is looking at a cost of £10,000-£12,000 per hour of broadcasting, in line with its competitors for the licence, but a little lower than most. By comparison, programming on ITV's Channel 3 costs about £40,000 an hour.

Potential bidders for SelectTV include MAI, Lord Hollick's TV-to-movie-making combine, which already has a small stake in the company, and Pearson. Associated Newspapers, publisher of the *Daily Mail* and also a SelectTV shareholder, is thought to have ruled itself out of the fray.

City awaits pricing of new gilt

The City nervously awaits the outcome of the Bank of England's £3 billion auction of 8 per cent 20-year gilts on Wednesday.

Failure of the September auction, when the issue was not fully covered, rocked financial markets, as it raised the spectre of Government funding problems as the budget deficit was deteriorating.

The September public sector borrowing requirement (PSBR) of £3.7 billion was worse than expected and was marked by a big shortfall in tax receipts.

Several analysts raised their PSBR forecasts for the current fiscal year. Some believe the Bank will price the October stock issue more attractively to ensure it does not suffer a second month with its auction uncovered.

Lovell chief going early

YI Lovell, the construction company, said Robert Sellick, the chief executive, would be retiring at the end of November, almost nine months early. His successor is David Heppell, president of Lovell America. George Miller, who was first choice, has not accepted the post "for personal reasons", although he is expected to remain with the company. Lovell said yesterday Mr Sellick's retirement had been brought forward as a result of the reducing of operations, particularly in private housebuilding.

Fruitful Asda

Asda is taking the price war to the fruit-and-veg sector. From today the retailer is reducing the price of its bananas from 25p per lb to 19p — a 24 per cent fall. Over the last two weeks the price of a typical selection of Asda fruit and vegetables has fallen up to 18 per cent, the company said.

KPN price

The second tranche of shares offered in KPN, the Dutch post and telecommunications group, was more than two times oversubscribed and the Government yesterday set the new share price at 55 guilders.

French bid for Northumbrian to be cleared

BY ERIC REGULY

THE Government's expected approval of a French utility's bid for Northumbrian Water this week could trigger a broad assault on the privatised water industry, which has escaped the spate of takeovers that have shaken the electricity sector.

Ian Lang, President of the Board of Trade, is likely to allow Lyonnaise des Eaux to launch a takeover offer for Northumbrian on the condition that the merger leads to customer discounts. In July, Ofwat, the water regulator, told Lyonnaise that any bid would be blocked unless customers' bills eventually fall by 10 per cent to 15 per cent.

Lyonnaise wants an agreed deal with Northumbrian but is prepared to mount a hostile takeover attempt if the water company, led by David Cranston, the chief executive, balks at its opening offer.

The French company is thought to be preparing a bid of 1050p to 1100p per share. Northumbrian's shares closed on Friday at 985p, valuing the company at about £688 million.

Lyonnaise will not be able to set the precise value of the bid until it reviews the conditions set by the government. If, for example, it allows Lyonnaise to phase in the customer

discounts over several years, Lyonnaise might be prepared to offer a high price. But if full discounts apply immediately, Lyonnaise might offer only a small premium, or even end its pursuit of the company.

Customer rebates of 15 per cent would cost Northumbrian about £50 million over the next four years; a 20 per cent reduction would cost about £70 million.

The share prices of the privatised water companies on the Stock Exchange have climbed substantially since Lyonnaise disclosed its intention in the spring to bid for Northumbrian. Anglian Water, whose low for the year was 443p, is now at 573p and has been as high as 603p. Yorkshire Water, whose low was 472p, ended trading on Friday at 646p.

Richard Bernstein, an analyst at Amber Analysis, publisher of the *Amber News* stock newsletter, thinks the water sector is ripe for takeovers even though they face enormous expenditures over the next few years to improve their sewage treatment plants and pipeline networks.

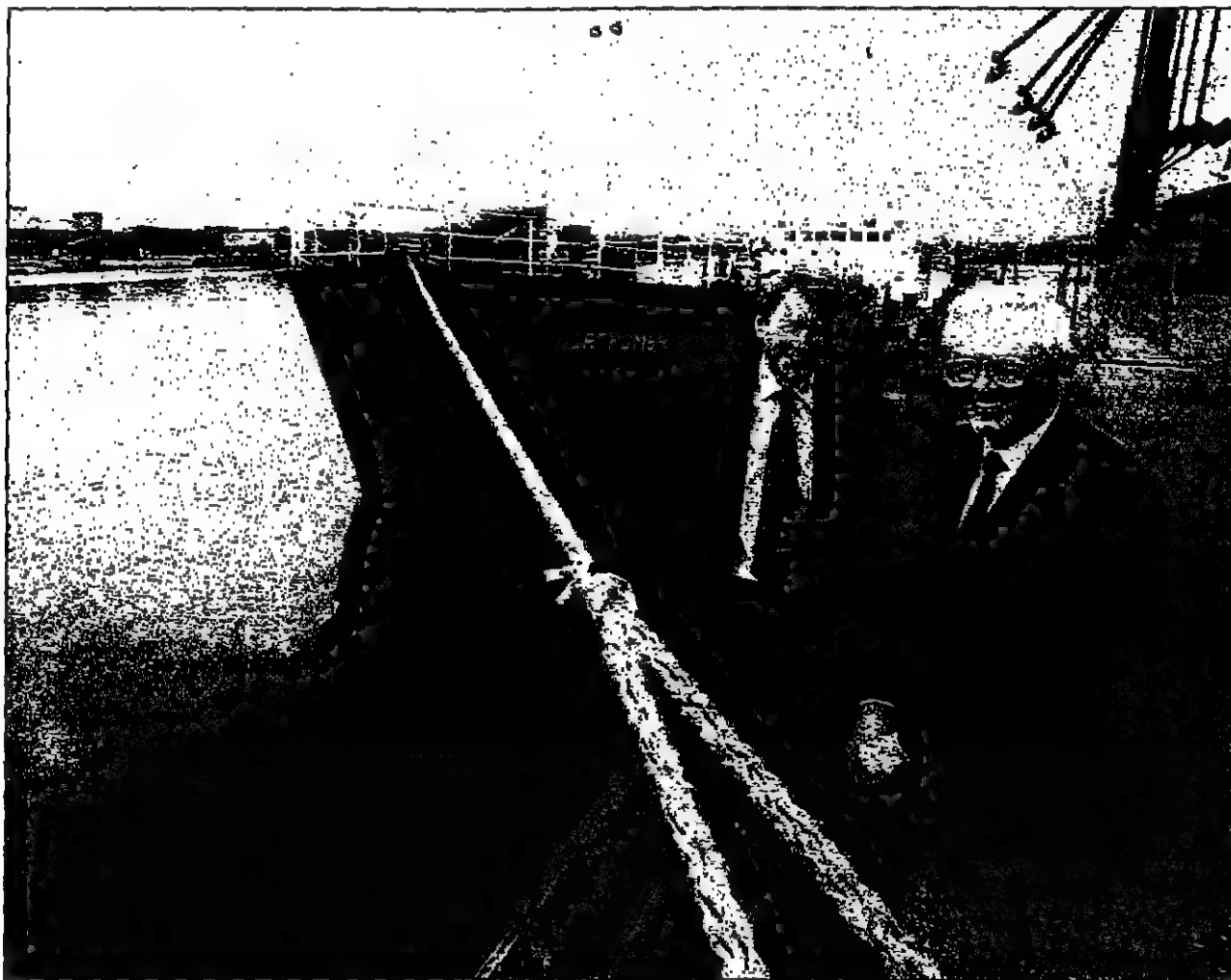
He notes that most of the water companies are still financially strong: their retained profits are high compared with their market

capitalisations. Mr Bernstein says: "This balance sheet strength is likely to attract significant corporate attention in the coming weeks."

The water companies, like the electricity companies, would also create tax advantages for buyers with accumulated trading losses. *Amber News* has suggested that Welsh Water, Yorkshire Water and South West Water are the most vulnerable to takeovers because of their relative value.

Other analysts think the water sector will never experience the merger frenzy that has gripped the electricity industry. A merger between Lyonnaise and Northumbrian, they note, makes sense because the companies have operations in the same region. Lyonnaise acquired North East Water, a statutory water company, in 1989 and would save costs by combining certain operations with Northumbrian.

Bouygues, the French construction company, is in a similar situation. It operates water companies in Britain through its Saur subsidiary and may be tempted to buy a privatised water company to create economies of scale. Generale des Eaux, which is Lyonnaise's main rival in France, might also consider takeovers, even though it has no water businesses in Britain.



French broadside: Mike Taylor, Northumbrian Water finance director, left, and David Cranston may face hostile bid

Regional trading fears dismissed

BY COLIN NARBROUGH, WORLD TRADE CORRESPONDENT

FEARS that regional trading blocs could threaten multilateral free trade were dismissed at the weekend by representatives of the world's four leading trading powers meeting at Ripley Castle in Yorkshire.

The so-called "Quad" group, comprising the European Union, America, Canada and Japan, concluded that the emergence of regional trading

pacts would, in fact, foster freer world trade, not present new obstacles.

The officials spent two days deliberating on the direction of world trade after the establishment this year of the World Trade Organisation (WTO) and the implementation of the Uruguay round, accord to liberalise a trade in a range of new areas.

Participants were Sir Leon

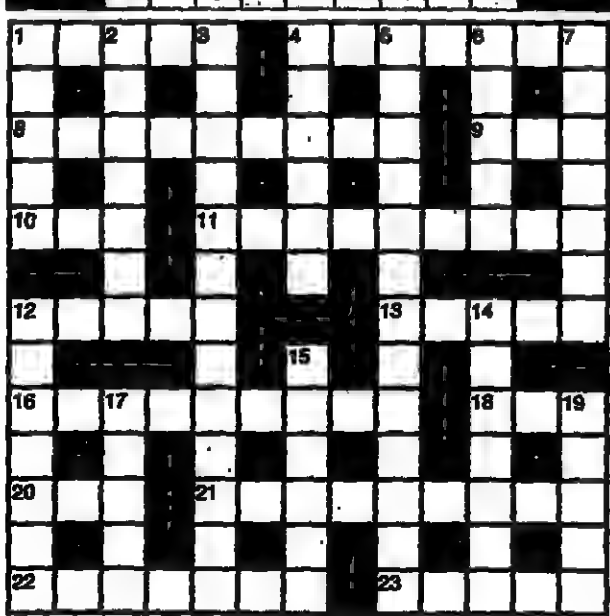
Britan, the European Trade Commissioner, Mickey Kantor, the US Trade Representative, Roy MacLaren, the Canadian Trade Minister, and Ryutaro Hashimoto, the Japanese Trade Minister.

On the question of China joining the WTO, no progress was made, in spite of Sir Leon's efforts to persuade Washington to ease its tough stance against Chinese entry.

Mr Kantor said that no big trading nation had been impressed by Peking's offer to the WTO, and that China had to start acting on a "commercially reasonable basis".

America clashed again with Japan during the meetings over whether the bilateral trade agreements between the two countries on micro-chips would be renewed next year.

TIMES TWO CROSSWORD



No 607

ACROSS

- 1 Childhood swelling disease (5)
- 4 Clay article (7)
- 6 Marxist socialism (9)
- 9 Continuous sequence: ladder (3)
- 10 Viscous liquid (3)
- 11 Interpretation of symptoms (9)
- 12 Stone worker (5)
- 13 Finnish bath (5)
- 16 Refuse to consider (feelings, wants of) (9)
- 18 Newport (Gwent) river (3)
- 20 Mischiefous little demon (3)
- 21 Affable (to a young person) (9)
- 22 Nobleman: enraged (anag) (7)
- 23 Fashion: distinctive method (5)

DOWN

- 1 Aggressively masculine (5)
- 2 Muttons: a head near Swansea (7)
- 3 Violin, piano part: trial audience (8-5)
- 4 Culmination (6)
- 5 Anecdotes of past experiences (13)
- 6 Society's conventional values (5)
- 7 Some of Henry IV's submission to Pope (7)
- 12 Far from the — Crowd (Hardy) (7)
- 14 As a rule (7)
- 15 Water down (6)
- 17 Dark reddish-brown (5)
- 19 Liturgical invocation: Mass movement (5)

SOLUTION TO NO 606

ACROSS: 1 Dispute 5 Mole 9 Stick-in-the-mud 10 Sewn 11 Incisor 13 Happen 18 Parakeet 20 Nice 23 Eminence 24 Dale 25 Cannibal
DOWN: 1 Dash 2 Swipe 3 Askance 4 Tonsil 6 Osmosis 7 Eldorado 8 Chic 12 Shepherd 14 Partial 16 Handgun 17 Mercia 19 Anew 21 Climb 22 Peal

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Rentokil's US chief leaves unexpectedly

BY OUR CITY STAFF

RENTOKIL, the environmental services and property care group, has unexpectedly parted with the head of its diverse American operations.

Michael Holmes, regional managing director for America, cleared his desk two weeks ago, but the company has yet to make a Stock Exchange announcement. A company spokesman said an announcement will be made this week.

Roger Payne, one of the UK regional directors, will replace Mr Holmes. The reasons for Mr Holmes' departure are not yet clear, but his replacement — and a number of other organisational changes expected this week — is likely to increase the unease about Rentokil's strategy. It will also raise doubts about its ability to continue to meet chief executive Clive Thompson's target of increasing earnings by 20 per cent each year.

ISS, the London-listed Danish group that is the world's

biggest contract cleaner, last month announced the surprise departure of Dennis Spina, head of its North American operations, when it discovered that the division had run into serious financial problems which are expected to burden the group balance sheet.

The announcement regard-



Thompson: earnings target

ing management changes at Rentokil may also contain an update on current trading, although a company spokesman denied there would be a warning on profits for the current financial year, which ends on December 31.

In 1994 Rentokil's North American activities earned £17 million before tax on turnover of £124.5 million.

Rentokil has been investing heavily in the development of a global security business to trade alongside its traditional interests in pest control, healthcare and tropical plants. The £75.2 million takeover of Securiguard in 1993 has been followed by a series of bolt-on acquisitions. The biggest was the \$51.5 million purchase of the manned guarding activities in North America of Mayne Nickless.

Last Friday, Rentokil paid £19.7 million to buy GMIC, Belgium's second-largest security business.

Late deal in sight at Scholl

BY ERIC REGULY

SCHOLL and the rebel shareholders who own 15 per cent of the medical products company were locked in negotiations yesterday in an effort to reach a compromise before tomorrow's extraordinary meeting in London.

The rebels, the UK Active Value Continuation Fund, a venture capital fund based in the British Virgin Islands, and certain clients of J O Hambro Investment Management, requested the meeting in September in the hope of winning three seats on the Scholl board. Their ultimate goal is to put the company on the auction block.

The rebels have since backed down on their demands, suggesting the appointment of one non-executive director. Scholl has accepted the idea in principle, but last night had yet to approve the rebels' nominee, whose identity has not been disclosed, or his role on the board.

Bifu banks on talks to save jobs

BY MARTIN BARROW

LLOYDS BANK and TSB have agreed to meet union representatives this week amid growing concern that thousands of jobs will be lost as a result of the merger of the two banks.

Leif Mills, general secretary of Bifu, the banking union, will meet Sir Brian Pittman, chief executive of Lloyds, and Peter Ellwood, chief executive of TSB, on Friday, at the Lombard Street head office of Lloyds in the City.

In spite of the assurances given by both banks that no job losses and branch closures will take place as a direct conse-

quence of the merger, Mr Mills said redundancies were inevitable if the enlarged group was to achieve the expected savings of £350 million a year.

Research conducted by Bifu after the £5 billion TSB takeover was announced by Lloyds this month, suggests that about 600 branches are at risk because of the overlap of the two branch networks.

"There must be job losses over and above what they say," Mr Mills said yesterday. "We shall be probing very hard to see what logic there is to this takeover beyond the narrow interests of big shareholders in the City of London. We don't see why two very successful

banks cannot continue their independent paths, offering the customer the greatest possible choice."

Bifu has asked the Office of Fair Trading to refer the takeover bid to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission.

Bifu is more strongly represented at TSB, where it claims to speak for about 90 per cent of the workforce. At Lloyds fewer than one in three of bank staff belong to the union, although many employees are represented by Lloyds Group Union, the internal staff association. About 50 per cent of employees in retail operations of the merged bank would belong to Bifu, according to the union.

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THE TIMES MONDAY OCTOBER 23 1995

Okinawans politely call for cutback in US bases

By PEREGRINE HODSON IN OKINAWA AND OUR FOREIGN STAFF

THE women's speech echoed harsh and shrill through the loudspeakers; her voice taunt with anger. "For 50 years the people of Okinawa have had to carry the burden of the US military on the island. They cannot develop their own land, their children have been attacked. They have had to endure the noise of firing ranges and low-flying aircraft. Overhead five helicopters circled in the overcast sky, filming the vast crowd gathered in Ginowan Park to protest against the rape of a 12-year-old schoolgirl, for which three US Marines have been indicted.

The demonstrators had come from all parts of Okinawa, old people, families and schoolchildren, united in their outrage at the crime. According to the rally's organisers, more than 85,000 people had responded to the call by Okinawa's Governor, Masahide Ota, for a cutback in US bases on the island and an apology and compensation for the rape victim.

The huge gathering was calm and dignified; the only foreigners were a few journalists, but our presence drew no visible antagonism. The assembly listened as speaker after speaker called for a reduction or an end to the US military presence in Okinawa. One old man said: "Fifty years is long enough. We cannot put up with it any more — that's why we're here. They say the bases are necessary for our security. But we do not need protecting. The mainlanders keep us down — it suits the Government in Tokyo and the Americans to have the bases here, but why don't they move them to the mainland?"

A woman in her forties explained why she had come. "When I was a schoolgirl, during the Vietnam War, it wasn't safe to be near the bases after dark and a lot of incidents went unreported. Even now in the street the things some American soldiers say to Japanese women are revolting. It is our home, after all, but they behave as if they owned the place." The last speaker of the day called on the assembly to see the demonstration not as a climax but the beginning of the movement to free the island from the bases. One man held a handmade sign — the Japanese and American flags with two hands outstretched towards each other, a red cross between them. He refused to say exactly what the sign meant. "I am a driver for the US Army," he smiled. "No comment."

His response reflected the contradictory relationship between Okinawans and the US military. By some estimates, the US presence contributes £1 billion to the local economy every year — second only to tourism as a source of income. Unemployment on the island is twice Japan's national average, and many depend on the bases for their livelihood. Since the rape a 9pm-6am curfew has been imposed on US servicemen and the bars and clubs of Nakanomachi in Okinawa City are almost deserted. One hostess was sympathetic to the rape victim, but disagreed with the curfew or closing the bases. "The Marines who attacked the girl were crazy. But most are just young boys wanting a good time."

Okinawans are divided on the future of bases on the island. For the older generation who remember the bloody fighting in the Second World War, the bases are a painful reminder of a past they would prefer to forget. Younger people are more tolerant. But all Okinawans agree their island has had more than its share of the US military presence in Japan, and believe Tokyo has ignored their grievances long enough. William Perry, the US Defence Secretary, said yesterday: "Both the United States and Japan will want to keep military forces there." He added that the presence of US forces enhanced the long-term interests of both countries. Two Japanese journalists from the *Mainichi Shimbun* newspaper and a farmer were arrested yesterday on charges of trespassing on a US base on the island. The maximum penalty for illegal entry into a US base is one year in prison.



A child in Bangkok tries on a pair of "eclipse-watch" glasses from a street vendor in preparation for tomorrow

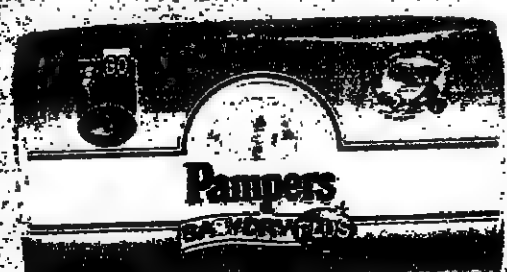
Rao's trip eclipsed by forecasts of woe

FROM CHRISTOPHER THOMAS IN DELHI

INDIA'S superstitious Prime Minister, P.V. Narasimha Rao, has embarked on an extended foreign tour to avoid the malign influences of a total solar eclipse that will strike his house just after 8.30am tomorrow. His astrologers, whose advice he heeds to the letter, told him to leave the country several days before the eclipse and to remain abroad for a long time afterwards. He had to go abroad to address the United Nations in New York, but he told his aides to arrange some other duties. It has turned into the longest overseas trip of his leadership. The moon's shadow will first fall over Iran and move across Afghanistan, Pakistan, northern India, Thailand and head towards Borneo. N.K. Sharma, the Prime Minister's favourite astrologer, said that Mr Rao, a Pisces, would suffer misfortune if he were touched by the eclipse. Special prayer ceremonies are being performed by the Prime Minister's friends and relations. The consensus among soothsayers is that all eclipses are bad. "How can it be good?" Mr Sharma said. "Sun is the source of life, and if it is eclipsed the effects are bound to be adverse."

Ajay Bhambi, another astrologer, said that if the Prime Minister left the country he would increase his tenure. Other commentators said he would also live longer. Some astrologers predict more killings and kidnappings in Kashmir and others say that Pakistan will also experience worsening unrest. Mr Bhambi said: "India might face strikes and general unrest. Prices of essential commodities will skyrocket." Kumar Vivek, a prominent astrologer, warned politicians born under Cancer, Libra, Scorpio and Pisces to beware. It would be a good time for Taurians, Leos, Sagittarians and Capricorns. He said that during such a rare eclipse, according to the shastras, a great soul would descend to Earth unseen through the darkness. The eclipse will be chased by Indian Air Force MiG21s with scientists aboard and droves of astronomers have arrived from overseas. The last total solar eclipse was on February 10, 1980, which was visible only in peninsular India. The next one, due on August 11, 1999, will probably be blocked by monsoon clouds. A total eclipse will not last more than 83 seconds at any place in India, although it will increase the farther it moves east. Hoteliers and tour operators see nothing but good in the eclipse, however. Every hotel in Agra, site of the Taj Mahal, is fully booked out and a tent city has been erected at nearby Fatehpur Sikri to cope with hordes of visitors. Room rents have soared and even tents are bringing in at least £50 a night.

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SAFEWAY

Lightening the load

Swiss vote reflects divisions over EU

FROM REUTERS IN ZURICH

VOTERS in Swiss cities provided gains for pro-European Union left-wing parties while the countryside boosted the anti-EU Right, according to computer projections after polls closed in yesterday's parliamentary elections. Computer predictions by Swiss television showed the Social Democrats picking up at least four new parliamentary seats in the three biggest urban cantons — Zurich, Basle and Geneva. In several rural cantons, the biggest gains were posted by the right-wing Swiss People's Party with at least three seats after the party campaigned for Switzerland to stay neutral rather than join the EU. The rural-urban division was clearest in German-speaking cantons, whose inhabitants make up about two-thirds of a population that also includes French-speakers and the Italian Ticino canton. Political analyst Claude Longchamp told Swiss TV: "This trend shows that the European question was the main issue of the campaign." Projections by the Swiss broadcasting network SRG showed no challenge to the four-party Centre-Right coalition that has governed since 1959 and includes the Social Democrats and Swiss People's Party. The 45 million voters chose 200 MPs in the lower house and 39 of the 46 upper house members.



Azharuddin: denies signing Reebok shoes

Cricket star apologises to Muslims

Hyderabad: Mohammad Azharuddin, India's cricket team captain, denied yesterday that he wrote the Prophet's name on unholily footwear while modelling for Reebok and apologised to Muslims. "I have signed a contract with the Reebok company, but I haven't autographed or signed on the shoes," he said in a statement faxed to newspapers. "If I have hurt the feelings of the Muslim fraternity, I apologise," said the cricket star. The Urdu-language press in Hyderabad, the player's home town, erupted in anger after the *Rahnuma-e-Deccan* newspaper carried a photograph of him autographing a pair of Reebok shoes on October 14. Many Muslims felt he should not have put his name — which includes the Prophet's name and "Azhar", an appellation for Allah (God) — on shoes, which in the Islamic religion are considered lowly and unholy. (Reuters)

ARTS THE WEEK AHEAD



**Jamaican painting
goes on show at
Bristol's Arncliffe
while the Whitechapel
goes big on Africa**
OPEN: Now
REVIEW: Tomorrow



**A Robert Bolt
season opens at
the Mermaid with
his Tudor epic,
Viva! Viva! Regina!**
OPENS: Tonight
REVIEW: Wednesday



**Romantic adour
from the Royal
Philharmonic under
Daniele Gatti
at the Barbican**
CONCERT: Tonight
REVIEW: Wednesday



**A Singles night
at the Albert
Hall, as Alison
Moyet puts some
beef into her blues**
GIG: Tomorrow
REVIEW: Thursday

LONDON

EARLY PUCCHINI Daniele Gatti conducts tonight's Royal Philharmonic Orchestra in a concert, opening with Puccini's *Crispino e Calandula*, a little-known gem of the composer's early career. The programme also includes Paganini's virtuosic Violin Concerto No. 1 and Respighi's *Fountain of Rome* and Pini's *Concerto for Violin and Piano*. 7.30pm, Fri and Sat, 8pm, Sun. Barbican, 5th St, WC2N 3AP. Tel: 0171-638 8881. Tickets: £10-25.

WYATT VIVAT REGINA! Opening night for Janet McTeer and Robert Bolt's *Viva! Viva! Regina!* at the Mermaid Theatre. The play, set in 16th-century England, tells the story of a woman who becomes queen. 7.30pm, Fri and Sat, 8pm, Sun. Mermaid, 100 St John St, EC4M 3DF. Tel: 0171-476 3333. Tickets: £10-25.

ELSEWHERE

CREWIE Tom Stoppard's multi-headed writing *Arcturion* is back on tour, starring Sharon Maughan and Paul Sheehan. 7.30pm, Fri and Sat, 8pm, Sun. 100 St John St, EC4M 3DF. Tel: 0171-476 3333. Tickets: £10-25.

TODAY'S CHOICE

A daily guide to arts and entertainment compiled by Kris Anderson

THE NATIONAL THEATRE *King Lear* (1970-73) 3.30pm, 7.30pm, Fri and Sat, 8pm, Sun. National, 100 St John St, EC4M 3DF. Tel: 0171-638 8881. Tickets: £10-25.

LEEDS *The Shakespeare Memorial* (1970-73) 3.30pm, 7.30pm, Fri and Sat, 8pm, Sun. Leeds, 100 St John St, EC4M 3DF. Tel: 0171-638 8881. Tickets: £10-25.

LUNCH WITH BASHMET The great Russian solo player Yury Bashmet gives a lunchtime recital of Bach's *Sonata for Violin and Piano*. 1.30pm, Fri and Sat, 2pm, Sun. Barbican, 5th St, WC2N 3AP. Tel: 0171-638 8881. Tickets: £10-25.

GLASGOW *Macbeth* (1970-73) 3.30pm, 7.30pm, Fri and Sat, 8pm, Sun. Glasgow, 100 St John St, EC4M 3DF. Tel: 0171-638 8881. Tickets: £10-25.

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THEATRE: Restoration comedy dressed to the nines; life, death and a side order of confusion

Catwalk Congreve

When Geraldine McEwan's *Lady Wishfort* asks her maid how she looks and gets the answer "most killing well," it is hardly surprising that the audience litters. After all, she is hopping and giggling about in black stockings, a pink vest and a mini-skirt consisting entirely of bloated red roses. She looks as if she uses greenfly-spray for perfume. As a study of an ageing lady girlishly awaiting her gallant, it is wonderfully funny; but the visual effect, let's concede, more than a mile over the top.

But then so is much of Phyllida Lloyd's revival of Congreve's great comedy. London has not caught in a time-blender that has left the 17th and 21st centuries inextricably entwined. A chocolate house becomes the garish anteroom of a casino, St James's Park an art gallery. Congreve in bright shirts and knee-length jackets with silver buttons drink champagne as they inspect or, more often, ignore the fierce slashes of paint on the walls.

Much of the time I felt that a catwalk critic rather than a drama hack should be reviewing the proceedings. Women in black plastic, leopard or zebra print on stage. Fiona Shaw's fine Millamant trails what looks like a satin-and-trouser Juliet Rhine-Turt in an extraordinary partnership between a green-and-red peasant number and Cyril Nri's Pez who has a tailor who thinks his clients should look like walking crossword puzzles.

Why the fuss? Anthony Ward, who designs, would doubtless argue that Restoration dress is almost equally exotic in its way; but, since most of us think of it as the visual counterpart of Congreve's elaborate dialogue, it is seldom distracting. The danger here is that the set and costumes will upstage the performances.

They sometimes do so, too. I suspect that Sir Thomas would make even more impact as a mean, scheming Marwood if she, rather than a gown like a half-slaughtered chrysalis, were allowed to do all the acting and that Veronica Quilligan would be still sweeter as the abused Mrs Fainall if her knees were not weirdly protruding from such ghastly bounces and bustles.

Yet I have to admit, somewhat unwillingly, that some actors do bring reality and genuinely human comedy to situations that seem custom-built to exclude them. Forgive me, rather, than me, the critic, to describe all the erotic and financial complexities of a notoriously



Why must the lady be a tramp? Geraldine McEwan makes Lady Wishfort a figure of farpos

The Way of the World
Lyttelton

Though her final, ironic crouch and bow do not work, she is marvellous in the famous speech in which she conditionally vows to "dwindle into a wife." Nor is she the only actress to remind us that the play has its serious side, notably the vulnerability of women in a callous, grasping world. It says much for McEwan that, without compromising the comedy, she brings the play to life. Why should everyone feel free to cheat and exploit? Lady Wishfort just because she is rich, menopausal and romantic? Despite all the vulgar ad, that is the question Lloyd's revival leaves us asking, and it is a pretty good one.

BENEDICT NIGHTINGALE

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BENEDICT NIGHTINGALE

Murder on the menu

DEATH rides a pale horse and in Terry Pratchett's *Discworld* its name is Binky, *Jeremy Kingston* writes. In Joe Penhall's *Wardsworth*, where Charles's wife has walked in front of a bus and he looks keen to do likewise, the horse is unnamed but is presumably Life. Life offers no comfort, goes downward all the way and is taking Charles with it. Penhall's *Some Voices*, here last year, was praised for its sharp-eyed study of a schizo-phobic adrift in the streets, where he finds no care in the community. His second play, again directed by Ian Rickson, focuses on a couple, Charles and Lucy, who hold themselves tensely in check or they will kill someone.

Lucy is the first to relax her vigilance. She walks out of a job in a private restaurant, where diners who pinch the waitress will be caressed - by the waitress - and is unwisely taken on as a barmaid in Charles's club. Here she is trained how to use a baseball bat if customers become unruly, and beats one to death. With her pinched little face and beady suspicious stare,

Theatre Upstairs

Kacey Ainsworth moves through the play like a dangerous mouse. Lucy's inability to foresee the consequences of her words and acts appears to disengage her from feelings of guilt but does not exclude panic, and this soon drags Charles down a fatal pathway to, well, I do not know what exactly. Assault on another customer comes into it, and then the police are hauling him from his wife's grave. Penhall writes short scenes in which the dialogue usually closes on an unexpectedly sinister, everyday remark. Following an outburst of insults, aggression or weird self-disclosure, it carries into the next scene a feeling that further danger is imminent. For most of the play this keeps the tension high, but then it begins to look like a trick.

Ray Winstone's Charles peers at the world from a face like a porcelain dumpling, evidently distressed by a world where his life went awry. His memories hint at numerous possibilities, too many for us to guess which, if any, was crucial, and that can be life-like, perhaps. If life itself is the wrecked. But it all becomes tenuous and slips away.

Young Vic, not the Old Vic as stated in Friday's paper

CONCERT: Vivid colour from the Philharmonia at the Festival Hall

Double measure of spirits

Following his recent success in cabaret at a West End hotel, Richard Rodney Bennett became the Philharmonia Orchestra's composer of the hour with his new *Pantheon for Orchestra*. In an extraordinary partnership between British Telecom and the Association of British Orchestras, the work is guaranteed performances by 17 orchestras the length and breadth of Britain during the next nine months, as well as being available on disc in advance of its first public performance here.

Bennett responded by deciding that the work should be "full of tunes". As indeed it is, in a manner reminiscent of William Walton in ebullient spirit and harmonic directness. Two brief and lively outer movements enclose an essential lullaby of nocturnal mood, bringing to prominence the first violin and first horn in solo passages of lyrical elegance, the rhythmi-

cal breezy vitality elsewhere made instantly communicative under Christoph von Dohnanyi's conducting. The orchestra's principal guest conductor measured his command of symphonic purpose and vividness of instrumental colour to its fullest extent in Mahler's epic Fifth Symphony, the structure more tightly organised and the ideas more tautly argued than in those before it. The conductor skilfully varied the content of the Funeral March within its firm basic pulse, and if the orchestral strings were somewhat lacking in bite for the stormy following movement, they helped to generate a boisterous exuberance for the central Scherzo, turning Mahler's contrapuntal ingenuity and throwing into relief a prominent and admirably played role for the first horn. In the celebrated Adagio, Dohnanyi steered an acceptable middle course between the excessive slow-indulgence favoured by Bernstein, and the markedly fast pace proposed in a recent theory about it. Here, its chamber-like delicacy invited an emotional response individual to each listener, before its yearning theme returned in greater confidence as one strand in the intricately woven counterpoint of a jubilantly resolved finale.

NOEL GOODWIN

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ALBERT 0

■ OPERA

A Greek queen in Glasgow: Anne Howells sings the lead in Scottish Opera's new *Belle Hélène*
OPENS: Wednesday
REVIEW: Friday

■ BOOKS

Feminism never reached the mothers, says Maureen Freely in *What about us?*
IN THE SHOPS: Now
REVIEW: Thursday

■ FILM

Aidan Quinn, Kate Beckinsale and Anthony Andrews confront dark forces in *Haunted*
RELEASED: Friday
REVIEW: Thursday

■ DANCE

The master is back: Merce Cunningham comes to Sadler's Wells
OPENS: Saturday
REVIEW: Next week

ARTS
TUESDAY TO
FRIDAY
IN SECTION 2

OPERA: Can the Paris Bastille become a great theatre? *The Times* talks to its new boss and reviews its latest staging



Five voices varied by their surroundings: Felicity Palmer, Andreas Jaggi and Marie McLaughlin do their best to beat the decor in *Mahagonny*

Lost in Weill bodies

Mahagonny
Opéra Bastille

The title of Weill's opera sounds so much better in French: *Grandeur et Décadence de la Ville de Mahagonny*. You can roll it round the tongue with truly Gallic, lip-smacking relish, and perhaps it should stick. It is tempting to describe Graham Vick's production at the Opéra Bastille as typically French, notable as it is for ideas, rather than ideas, but it is in fact originated at the Maggio Musicale in Florence five years ago, and nobody in the production team is German. Opera is an international business nowadays.

Not altogether surprisingly, the staging is characterised by a certain lack of focus. Maria Björnson's decor is a prime example of overkill, as though she were working on one of those West End shows whose musical poverty has to be disguised at all costs.

We are on a huge parking lot in front of a Street-Scene-style tenement block bursting through metal shutters. The costumes, especially those for the chorus and the horde of supernumeraries, are so garish that you cannot actually make out which are the principals, who keep on going missing.

Some of Vick's ideas are engaging (Mrs Begbick supervising the making of the Mahagonny Promo Video, for

example) and some less so (why a Moundie? Just an excuse to get a horse onstage?) but there is so much going on all the time that the chorus is too often banished to the wings — a fatal move — and there is precious little in the way of narrative thread. What is this opera, until recently a "period piece" but now so gruesomely topical, supposed to be about?

Weirdest of all is the way the entire company ages after Jimmy Mahoney's arrest. His trial is a symphony of wheel chairs and Zimmer frames, and the finale shows the citizens dropping dead one by one.

Weill wrote music for a series of angry protest marches. This is more a collection of vignettes loosely inspired by certain ideas in *Mahagonny* than a produc-

tion of the piece itself. Black marks all round.

Jeffrey Tate, in charge of an enthusiastic rather than disciplined orchestra and chorus, builds up a fair head of dramatic steam when not indulging in dangerously slow tempos. The Bastille's misty orchestral acoustics may account for a lack of snap to Weill's rhythms.

The voices, though, sound fine, and the production *sur le voyage* for the singing alone. Kim Begley's Jimmy is sensational — at once heroic and lyrical of timbre, and with a marvellous sense of musical line. Marie McLaughlin catches the plangency of Jenny, if not her toughness, and goes through the stockings and suspenders routine with dignity unimpaired.

The heavies are led by Felicity Palmer's reinforced-concrete Widow Begbick, and the Trinity Moses of Franz Hawlata, last year's memorable Baron Ochs for the Welsh National.

If only you could see them through all the clutter. As with the *Vien* at the Châtelet earlier this year, you felt that if all the dancers and supers were sent home, there might be a production here. Limitless subsidy can have its drawbacks.

RODNEY MILNES

Gall, guts and a populist plan

John Higgins
talks to the
man charged
with raising
the Bastille.

Paris is looking to Hugues Gall to save the Bastille. Last month Nabucco, the opening production of his reign over the 2,700-seat house and the old Paris Opéra (currently closed), was a success. The critics brought out their superlatives and the performances sold out. *Mahagonny*, which has just followed, was a calculated risk.

Gall has had nearly two years to plan his first season since, in November 1993, he delivered to Jacques Toubon, then Minister of Culture, his recommendations for turning the Bastille from a national joke into a national treasure. His terms were tough and so far he has got his way. The music director, Myung-whun Chung, was removed and will be replaced next summer as chief conductor by the American James Conlon. Gall has no artistic director; he does all the planning and casting himself.

He also demanded the restoration of the Opéra, or Palais Garnier, which the Government wanted to use purely for ballet. Gall argued that there must be a theatre for Mozart operas, which were unsuitable for the Bastille. The Government found the money, and the Garnier returns to opera next March.

Back at the Bastille, this first Gall season looks unashamedly popular. He makes no

apologies. "My first job is to build a repertoire," he says. "I have inherited very little. About 80 per cent of the existing productions are unusable, chiefly for reasons of cost."

"I'm having to use one or two revivals not particularly to my taste, such as *Tosca*, but basically we are creating our own stagings from *Nabucco* through to *Norma* next June."

"Yes, it is a popular season for a popular house. When the Garnier is reopened it is my aim to provide 365 performances of opera and ballet a year, which means going for a total audience of 800,000. That requires bringing in a new public. I have to reach beyond the opera club."

It could be argued that Paris is in danger of having too much opera. The Théâtre des Champs-Élysées is a regular home for visiting companies. The Châtelet has starry casts, usually in co-productions with foreign houses, and the much smaller Opéra-Comique is still in operation. So why was Gall

so insistent on the restoration of the Garnier?

"Each theatre has its own function," he says. "The Champs-Élysées has a high percentage of opera in concert form. The Châtelet is the centre of 'Parisianisme', but usually only plays four or five performances of each work. The Comique is entitled to the repertoire which belongs to it through historical right. But we must have a house which can put on work that would be lost in the expanses of the Bastille."

But will there not be a danger of the Garnier becoming an elitist house, devoted to the very "opera club" Gall wants to avoid? "Yes, we are aware of that and we are going to avoid it. One way will be by ensuring that the occasional gala apart, the pricing policy is the same as at the Bastille." There the best seats are £550 (about £75), whether Domingo is singing or not.

There have been 11 different administrators in Paris since Rolf Liebermann left the Opéra in 1980, and the notoriously militant theatre unions have become stronger with each one's passing. Gall is all too aware that he needs support both above, from the Government, and below, from those who turn the wheels of the Bastille. "I crave neither sainthood nor martyrdom. My aim is satisfaction, my own and that of the public."

JAZZ AND POP: Old hands strut their stuff; young guns misfire

Kenny Baker
Birmingham

Lighthouse Family
Dingwalls, NW1

IN THE 1950s, with their weekly live radio show *Let's Settle For Music*, Kenny Baker's Dozen set the standard for big-band jazz in Britain. At Ronnie Scott's Birmingham offshoot, the current, 15-piece version of the band, with veterans such as Vic Ash, Roy Wilcox and Derek Healey rubbing shoulders with younger stars such as Alan Barnes and Pete Beachill, maintained the formidably high standards of the original group.

This is, despite the relative rarity of its appearances, the best big band in the classic tradition playing in Britain today. At the centre of everything is the septuagenarian Baker himself, his trumpet floating effortlessly over his saxophone section on *Ghost of a Chance* his one minute, and holding its own against the high energy trumpets of Bruce Adams and Brian Rankin on *Harlem Airshaft* the next.

Airshaft is one of a group of Baker's own arrangements of Duke Ellington material, and in the best Ellington tradition his charts draw out the individual talents of his soloists. The spontaneity of his stage presence, extending a solo here, cutting a half-chorus there, is also reminiscent of Ellington.

But what the band does best is swing. Len Skear's bass giving a two-beat lift to old ballads such as *Pardon Me Pretty Baby*, and drummer Bobby Worth hitting an unashamed off-beat on full band choruses in a way that even American bands seem to have forgotten how to do these days.

ALYN SHIPTON

AFTER a long period of development, audiences have been able this year to sample two tastes of the brew served up by the Lighthouse Family — Nigerian singer Tunde Baiyewu and keyboard player Paul Tucker. The singles *Lifted* and, in recent weeks, *Ocean Drive* have wafted alluringly from radio speakers across the country. While neither has made much of a chart impression, they have opened a window on to an exotic aural vista.

Both songs feature Baiyewu's light, subtle tones set gently against Tucker's soulful backdrops. The next step in the duo's carefully measured career development was to see how they stood up in the meat-and-potatoes world of the club gig.

Only one song into this London date — described by Baiyewu as the last leg of the band's mini-tour — the singer made the misjudgment of telling the audience it deserved a big round of applause. It could be attributed to nerves, but we really had not done anything to be thanked for other than turning up. Giving away gratitude that cheaply set the wrong tone for the proceedings.

The duo and their band worked ably through the two singles and other songs from their impending debut album *Ocean Drive*, but the high sheen of their records somehow turned to matt in such "rosaic" surroundings. The purity of their talent is not in doubt, but their ability to impose themselves on an audience remains unproven.

PAUL SEXTON

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Alice Thomson meets Elizabeth Symons, the elegant head of the Civil Service trade union

A woman who dared say no, minister

The world of the British civil servant is under threat. The bowler hat has gone, crumpled and gentlemen's relish in the canteen have been replaced by croissants. They no longer have time to read Ovid on the omnibus and this year they have been banned from using Latin tags when briefing ministers.

To make matters worse, last week Michael Howard made it clear that their last bastion, the right to hide behind ministerial responsibility, no longer applies.

The Home Secretary's sacking of Derek Lewis for his alleged mismanagement of the Prison Service has forced the Civil Service to realise that when the going gets tough, their political masters will probably push them out of the lifeboat. Even Sir Humphrey would think of quitting Whitehall if it wasn't for one woman, Elizabeth Symons.

She is the person who has been battling it out for Mr Lewis and the Civil Service for the past week all over the media. As general secretary of the Association of First Division Civil Servants, Sir Humphrey's trade union, Ms Symons looks after more than 11,000 high-flying administrators, statisticians, government lawyers and tax collectors. She is as tough and tenacious a negotiator as Arthur Scargill.

At first Ms Symons appears the epitome of those whom she represents. Her dress, her desk and her diction are all

immaculately polished. She wears a formal black suit, her paper-clips are stacked in a neat pile. You can't imagine her using an um or an ah, an unnecessary superlative.

But the first woman to run Britain's elite trade union also sports vibrant auburn hair, an infectious laugh, stiletos, and is not afraid of coming out from Whitehall's cosy corridors.

When her legal team first rang her about Mr Lewis' predicament on Monday morning she knew it was going to be a busy week. Her most painful duty last week was to listen to the House of Commons debate on Mr Lewis' departure. "It was good theatre, there were lots of cheap gibes and the Tory backbenchers were their usual exuberant selves, but it was depressing because a proper examination of the role of civil servants is crucial," she says. "The problem is that ministers are quick to take the credit and we really need to sort out the question of responsibility and accountability."

Ms Symons would prefer a Civil Service Act so that civil servants could know exactly what is expected of them. "The Civil Service has been her life. Her father was the Chief Inspector of Taxes. After a stint at Girton College, Cambridge, she took the Civil Service exams but to the amazement of her peers soon found she preferred giving speeches to writing them and moved into the trade union side.

'Ministers like to grab the credit and avoid the blame'



Elizabeth Symons: "After this week I'm sure I will be questioned a great deal less on why we need a union"

"I am passionate about the Civil Service. I know that it is not a Civil Service word but it is a very fine institution run by very fine people," she says.

She is also extremely aware that it is under attack and suffering from low morale. MORI has just conducted a survey which shows that four out of five employees would now discourage a young person from joining.

Like many civil servants, she dislikes the brash world of the 1980s, the "all profit, colour supplement, yuppie ideal" and blames it for whittling away at the idea of public service. "A lot of people still sit the exams but they quickly get poached for more glamorous jobs," she says. She also knows that better pay is not the only answer.

"Self-publicists shouldn't go into the Civil Service and if you want to get rich you should go elsewhere. The hours can be extremely long, you are at the beck and call of ministers," she says.

So why on earth do it? "What they value most is the intellectual challenge and the feeling of achievement. They all speak extremely highly of

the intelligence of their colleagues." The entrance exams are very taxing, she says. In other words, nobody has to suffer conversations about the latest episode of *Coronation Street* over the photocopier.

She also loves her place within the TUC. "I hope they don't think I'm an oddity. After this week I'm sure I will be questioned a great deal less on why we need a union," she says. On the media, she is realistic. "It is the journalist's job to try to get stories and the civil servant's to prevent them from leaking. One must deplore unauthorised illegal disclosures, although I regret we don't have a Freedom of Information Act."

Does she have time for anything frivolous? "I watch *Question Time* and *Newsnight*, read historical novels, Trollope and of course Jane Austen," she says. She was going to be an academic and began a PhD on the 80 years in Sussex preceding the Civil War but found it too lonely. "I really relax with friends, family and my 10-year-old son." She reads *Harriet* occasionally at the hairdresser. But her members need not worry; her "lovely" home, son and journalist partner will not be appearing in any forthcoming edition.

She also once wanted to become an actress. But her best role may be as the very model of a modern civil servant.

Now everyone wants a home in the hills

Magnus Linklater on conflict between land and people

Nothing is more calculated to rouse emotion than a threat to property. The bulldozer which flattened a lovingly restored 18th-century cottage in Leicestershire last week was as brutal as a smash in the teeth, while a few hundred miles further north furious protests have engulfed an Arab millionaire, Mahdi Mohammed al-Tajer, who is said to have allowed houses on Blackford Estate, in Perthshire, to decay and collapse rather than have people living in them.

He is alleged to have turned the farming land where Highland Spring water is bottled into a wilderness to protect the purity of his water. The fact that he has created jobs for 300 people in an area of high unemployment is judged less important than this supposed act of land vandalism.

Even the conservationist movement now finds itself on the receiving end of the fury aroused when the interests of human beings and property come into conflict. At a conference on heritage held the other day in Inverness, a mild-mannered naturalist found his arguments dismissed as "neo-fascist claptrap" by a passionate advocate of the crofting movement. His crime had been to praise the beauty of the wilderness areas of the Highlands; but the very use of the word wilderness is political dynamite these days — it summons up a picture of a land deserted by people of ruined villages, of the Highland clearances.

But in the Highlands the clearances have, if anything, gone into reverse. Over the past ten years the population of the northern counties of Scotland has risen faster than any other area in Britain. The interest in reclaiming strips of land bearing little except perhaps a tumbledown cottage and the remains of a barn has never been higher.

Meanwhile the landowner with his sprawling acres is in some difficulty. Running a large estate has become increasingly unprofitable and more and more of them have come onto the market.

Three years ago the crofters of Assynt in Sutherland

caused a sensation when they formed their own trust to buy back land which had been owned by a Scandinavian consortium. Their experiment has so far succeeded, and recently they announced a new enterprise: they intend to build a generating facility, and have won a contract to supply electricity to the National Grid. Encouraged by their example, other trusts are likely to be formed.

Now Michael Forsyth, the Scottish Secretary, has taken the radical step of offering Scottish Office land for sale to crofters. His plan, announced last week, is to sell off 109,000 hectares of Highland land if he can find enterprising crofters willing to set up trusts to buy it. A total of 1,400 crofters could own their own land if the plan comes off. It is a remarkable fact that a Tory administration should be getting in process a return of land to the people that would undoubtedly be described as socialism in action if it had been introduced under Labour.

But Mr Forsyth is, in a sense, pushing at an open door. The economics of crofting, at least as a part-time activity, have been steadily improving. By combining several different jobs, a decent living can be made — the current jargon is "pluriactivity". Tourism, local industries such as fish-farming, and the opportunities of conducting a business from home thanks to modern technology, have all offered opportunities which were not there 20 years ago.

The crofters today are as good for the crofter as they have been since an Act of 1886 gave every crofter in the north-west of Scotland security of tenure and the right to claim compensation from his landlord.

Dr Jim Hunter, author of the definitive work *The Making of the Crofting Community*, says: "There is a buzz about the place, a greater sense of self-confidence than I have ever known." And since he is the one who uttered that remark about the conservationists and their "neo-fascist claptrap", it seems risky to disagree.

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SOME people run for President. Lamar Alexander is walking for it.

It is a trick he learnt in 1978 when he trekked 1,022 miles across Tennessee, despite being hit by a van, and the next year won the governorship. This time he is walking across New Hampshire, which holds the nation's make-or-buy first primary next February.

On a brilliant autumn morning, with the trees a blaze of red and gold, he arrives by car at a lovely old church in the village of North Hampton. From a chalked red cross on the ground marking where he left off last time, the candidate strides off down a leafy road of charming white weatherboarded homes, followed by a dozen supporters clutching bright red "Lamar" placards, three journalists, two photographers and a dog.

The would-be President — a small, trim man of 55 — is unstoppable. He bounds into homes and driveways to greet the local citizenry. He waves vigorously at passing lorries. He collars workmen repairing roads, motorists putting petrol in their cars, old folk gently scanning themselves on benches. He leads his merry crew into an off-licence, an ironmonger and a supermarket, charging down the aisles in search of every last voter.

"Is there anybody else back there?" he yells after talking to a pharmacist at his counter. When a bewildered assistant pokes her head round the

The long walk to the White House



Lamar Alexander arrives in North Hampton

corner the candidate's hand shoots out. "I'm walking across New Hampshire, and I'd like to be your next President," he declares. "Let me ask you something. If you were sitting across from the President right now and could ask him one thing, what would it be?" Five minutes of earnest listening later the man is off once more, bounding towards the village hall where his campaign has laid on a free lunch of rolls and fizzy drinks for all who care to come.

To ensure coverage in the local paper, Mr Alexander presents one of his trademark red-and-black check shirts to a North Hampton worthy who just happens to be the caterer who did the lunch. Outside two aides in a car retraced the morning's route hammering red-and-black "Lamar Walked Here" signs into the verges. "It's a lot better way to meet people than flying around in a blue suit at

37,000ft." Mr Alexander enthused as we marched off into the afternoon. "I meet anywhere from 100 to 400 or 500 people a day. I wave at a lot more and it only takes 50,000 to win this primary."

Last July, when Mr Alexander began his zigzag walk from New Hampshire's capital of Concord to the sea with overnight stops in local people's homes, it had seemed an inspired idea. He was then just one of nine largely anonymous

Republican candidates languishing in single figures in the polls and trailing far behind the front-runner, Robert Dole. The walk seemed certain to single him out from the pack. It would surely appeal to those notoriously prickly New Hampshireites who insist on meeting the candidates face to face before making their choice. It would lead this millionaire populist persona and reinforce his claim to be from the real world, not just another Washington insider.

The problem is that three months and thousands of handshakes later, and despite heavy radio and television advertising, Mr Alexander is still trapped in the ranks of the obscure. The latest poll measured his support among New Hampshire Republicans at just 7 per cent. The publishing tycoon Steve Forbes measured as much having entered the contest just one month earlier, and if Colin Powell joins the race next month Mr Alexander and the rest will almost certainly be blown away.

Mr Alexander is politely received by those he meets, but that does not mean he has won them over. New Hampshireites are shrewd folk. They watch with wry amusement as candidates swarm across their state every fourth year.

He is a former moderate seeking to recast himself as a conservative. He portrays himself as a Washington "outsider", despite serving as a

Senate aide, a White House aide and President Bush's Education Secretary (he now glibly claims to have spent enough time in the capital to be "inoculated but not infected"). His original battle cry — "cut Washington's 'arrogant empire' down to size and return power to the states" — was undercut by the Republicans' capture of Congress last November and he has never found another.

THE loneliness of the long-distance walker does not seem to worry Mr Alexander. He exudes that belief in his ultimate victory that all candidates profess right up to the moment of defeat. He still has a fair amount of money. He is sure his fortunes will improve when the media start covering the race in earnest and the voters begin to pay attention.

Mr Alexander just may be right. There are still four months to go, and someone must surely emerge as Mr Dole's main challenger. But the more likely scenario is that he, like so many hundreds of presidential wannabes before him, will slog on down New Hampshire's increasingly wintry roads but never reach his destination — one more curious footnote in the history of this state's unfailingly colourful primaries.

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Can even the lowest levels of radiation be safe? □ How jet lag affects sporting performance □ Britons win a galactic contest



FIFTY years after the Hiroshima bomb, the science of radiation protection — which learnt so much from that terrible experiment — shows signs of becoming controversial again.

An argument is going on about whether the dangerous effects of high doses of radiation — such as the survivors experienced — can be extrapolated downwards to the low levels of normal life.

The dispute touches everything from living in a house containing radon gas to the number of people who can be expected to die as a result of the Chernobyl nuclear accident.

The French Academy of Sciences has declared that there are no grounds for reducing the radiation doses to which members of the public can be exposed, as the International Commission on Radiological Protection wishes.

The ICRP proposals would cut the public limit of five per year to just one, which the French Academy says is less than the variation in background radiation in some

The shadows of Hiroshima



SCIENCE BRIEFING

Nigel Hawkes

areas. In America, the Health Physics Society takes a similar line: below 100 millisieverts, it says, "statements of risk are more speculative than credible".

A prominent Swedish radiobiologist, Gunnar Wilander, has also weighed in, in a book called *Has Radiation Protection become a Health Hazard?* He suggests that the very detectability of low-level radiation is what makes it so difficult for the public to

understand.

If Chernobyl had released a chemical rather than radiation, it

would have been impossible to detect it more than about ten miles from the plant. In distant Britain and Sweden, nobody would have been worried at all.

Radiation is easily detected, and if any dose can really have an effect, then Chernobyl is expected to cause 25,000 to 30,000 cancers in the northern hemisphere, which sounds alarming. But, says Dr Wilander, 4.3 billion people live in the northern hemisphere, of whom between 700 and 800 million will eventually die of cancer. "The hypothetical in-

crease on account of Chernobyl would be between three and four thousandths of a per cent," he says.

And even that assumes a linear response between dose and response at very low levels, which is the very issue under discussion. If that does not apply, then no increase is to be expected.

Enter Britain's National Radiological Protection Board, which to its astonishment was asked by its French opposite number to carry out a study of low-level radiation. The NRPB could not understand why it was being asked to do this by a French organisation, but gladly took the job on.

Its conclusion? There is no threshold below which radiation does no harm. At really low levels the risk may be insignificant compared to crossing the road, but it is not zero. The body does not have an effective way of dealing with radiation, because of the way in which it zips through the DNA, cutting both strands and making repair harder.

It seems a safe bet that a lot of people are going to find this difficult to accept.

Home run



AMERICAN baseball fans bemoaning their team's lack of success have a new excuse: jet lag.

Three sports-loving doctors from Massachusetts have examined the records of 19 teams based on the East and West Coasts of the US. The teams play a large number of games every season, many of them after long flights between time zones with little time to recover.

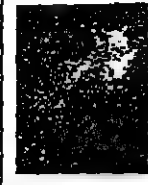
The severity of jet lag and the time needed to recover depend on the number of time zones crossed, and the direction of travel, they argue in *Nature*. Travelling from west to east is worse, requiring a longer recovery time. So if jet lag is indeed a factor, the records should show that teams from the West Coast do significantly worse in away games that involve long flights. So it proves.

For the three seasons between 1991 and 1993, home teams won 50 per cent of their games. But the

advantage was significantly greater if the visiting team had just travelled eastward. Home teams won 62.9 per cent of these games.

In terms of runs, the home advantage was more striking. The home team could, on average, expect to score 1.24 more runs than usual when their opponents had just completed eastward travel. That may not seem much, but it could be decisive. In two of the years, the league title was won by only a single game.

Hole truth



A TEAM of British astronomers has narrowly edged out American rivals to the discovery of a possible new black hole in our galaxy.

Dr Jorge Casares and Dr Phil Charles, of Oxford University, and Dr Tom Marsh, of Southampton, found the putative black hole in the constellation Vulpecula by detecting the motion of a very faint star in orbit around it. By defini-

tion, black holes cannot be seen directly, but must be inferred by the motion of stars that are under the influence of their powerful gravitational fields.

The team used the William Herschel telescope at La Palma in the Canaries to study the motion of the orbiting star, and found that it made a complete orbit every 8.3 hours. From the shift in wavelength of the star's spectrum as it went round, they showed it was moving at 520 kilometres per second.

By using Newtonian physics, it is possible to calculate that the invisible object around which the star orbits has a mass five times greater than our Sun. That makes it a strong candidate as a black hole, second only in the Milky Way to the black hole in Cygnus.

The British group had their evidence at the end of July, just before a rival group at the ten-metre Keck telescope in America came to the same conclusion. The long-term aim is to determine the masses of a dozen or so black holes, from which a lot may be learnt about the life and death of stars.

Is Hawking another Albert Einstein?

Britain's most famous scientist and the man who revolutionised physics are remarkably similar, says J.P. McEvoy

In the winter of 1979 — the centenary of Einstein's birth — I took a month's leave from my teaching and research in physics to travel across the United States giving a special lecture about a discovery made by Einstein. No, not relativity but another paper in which he first proposed that light travels in bundles which today are called photons.

I returned to Europe in March, to attend a special birthday celebration in Bern where Einstein — as a 26-year-old patent clerk — revolutionised physics with three papers in the same year, 1905, each of which started a new branch of physics. Only Newton's *Principia* can compare.

The last event on the programme in Bern was the awarding of the Einstein Medal for the most outstanding contribution to astrophysics. From high up in the balcony, it was the first time I saw Stephen Hawking. As the citation was read, Hawking drove his motorised wheelchair across the stage to accept the award. As the entire audience stood up and applauded for several minutes, I took in the emotion of the crowd and developed a lump in my throat.

Suddenly, I noticed that almost everyone else — astronomers, astrophysicists, cosmologists, science journalists and their guests — were wiping tears from their eyes. With that scene in mind, I had no trouble understanding the success of Hawking's world-renowned book, *A Brief History of Time*, published some ten years later. That moment in Bern links Hawking and Einstein forever in my mind.

The next time I saw Hawking was about a year ago when I visited his office in Cambridge. I had just been commissioned to write *Stephen Hawking For Beginners* for Icon Books. At our first meeting we spoke via his computer of physics problems and Einstein. I quickly saw that Hawking approached his own work in a style not unlike the German scientist — focusing on paradoxes in existing theory.

This was not the first time I would be struck by the similarities and links between the lives and

work of Hawking and Einstein. It is well known that Einstein's great revolutions in relativity had their roots in his contemplation of paradoxes in existing theory. In the case of special relativity, he asked himself over and over again what would be seen if one could travel at the speed of light. This led to his postulates that nothing moves faster than light and that the speed of light is a constant for all observers, essential parts of his special theory.

In the case of general relativity, Einstein was guided by another paradox, the problem of action at a distance. In Newton's theory of gravitation, no account was given for the instantaneous appearance of a force when mass is brought into existence. This violates the postulates of his earlier special relativity and Einstein knew it was wrong. He subsequently eliminated forces altogether, removing the paradox and creating a new theory of gravitation which dominates astrophysics today.

During my first conversation with Hawking, I asked about his current research and he described his thoughts on quantum gravity, the marriage of general relativity and quantum mechanics. This is known as the "Theory of Everything" in the popular press because its successful development would mean the final unification of all the known forces in nature. Now Hawking believes he has found a paradox.

He scanned his computer matrix of 2,600 words with lightning speed to compose his answers which I read from a screen:

"One of the best places to look for new ideas in theoretical physics is the apparent paradoxes that occur in the existing theory. At the moment I am looking at just such a paradox. The calculations indicate that information seems to be lost from the universe when a black hole forms and evaporates." (I can guarantee that this is an exact quotation, as Hawking hands you a floppy disk at the end of a meeting with his remarks already digitised.)

In 1974, Hawking developed the theory predicting that black holes evaporate. At the time this was a shock to the world of relativistic cosmology because theory indicated that nothing could get out of a black hole. He continued: "If this is true, it would have far-reaching implications, for gravity would add a new level of unpredictability to physics over and above the uncertainty associated with quantum theory. The reaction of most physicists has been that this cannot happen, that somehow information must get out of black holes, but we haven't found a credible mechanism."

Clearly Hawking and Einstein think in a similar style. Hawking now and Einstein before him feel in their bones that things should be a certain way, but the physical insight often catches them without the appropriate mathematical skills. No problem — they go and learn what they need. In 1912, Einstein contacted his friend Marcel Grossmann. In the 1930s Hawking, thinking about singularities in black holes and at the Big Bang, cornered the math-

ematician Roger Penrose to learn topological methods for dealing with these new kinds of problems.

Perhaps the strangest Hawking/Einstein similarity is the cultist and oracular status they have achieved. Hawking is sometimes flown by private jet across the Atlantic to fill a large university sports arena for a 45-minute public lecture. This may bring sneers from academia, but it is great for public appreciation of science. Hawking has accepted an invitation to give one of these lectures at the Albert Hall on November 22.

In the 1930s Einstein gave a public lecture at the Natural History Museum in New York, reported as follows:

"A mob of 4,500 persons rioted last night at the Museum of Natural History trying to hear about Einstein's theory of relativity. The crowd shouted and swarmed between the canoes, totem poles and walrus tusks to the main auditorium, seizing the remaining seats. Women screamed and the manhandled attendants ran to call the police. It was the first science riot ever quelled by the NYPD."

We don't expect that kind of a response at the Albert Hall but you never can tell. The title of Hawking's talk, "Does God Play Dice in Black Holes?", is about the paradox of lost information which concerns him now. I can guarantee that the spirit of Einstein will be very much in evidence. Is Hawking another Einstein? Perhaps not. But he is as close as we will get in the present epoch. As physics reaches the end of a golden age — the 20th century — we can look back with wonder at the work of Einstein, Ernest Rutherford, Madame Curie, Niels Bohr, Enrico Fermi and Richard Feynman; now they are all gone. Hawking could well be the last of the legendary physicists.

J.P. McEvoy is working with the artist Oscar Zarate on another icon guide, *Quantum Theory for Beginners*, to be published in May 1996.

A sticker application for "Does God Play Dice in Black Holes?" appears on Page 5.



Stephen Hawking: his "Theory of Everything" would mean the final unification of all known forces.

Anjana Ahuja on how two men with a mallet and a plate could help some of the world's most arid regions

When hidden water answers to a tap

If you saw a man in a field in Wiltshire hitting a plate on the ground with a mallet, it probably wouldn't occur to you that he was looking for underground water. But that is what Dr John Millar and his colleague Dr Richard Clarke have been doing.

Their new method of divining water using soundwaves is cheaper and simpler than drilling boreholes, and aid agencies working in drought-stricken regions are looking at it with interest.

The creation of electrical signals in fluid-bearing rocks by the passage of seismic waves, called electrokinesis, was first predicted in 1936. As the soundwave — in this case from the mallet striking the plate — travels down through the ground it shakes any fluid present within the rocks, causing the positive ions in the fluid to cling to the walls of the

rock. The negatively charged ions float behind, so a charge separation results. Such a separation — called an electric dipole — can be detected as an electrical pulse at ground level.

As the soundwave descends ever deeper into the ground, it throws up an electrical signal for each water table or permeable aquifer it encounters. A computer works out from these signals how far underground the water reserves are, and how much water the

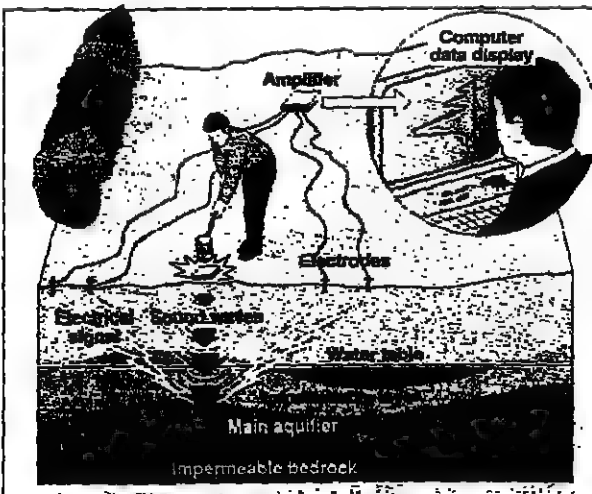
reserves are likely to yield. "The method works for any fluid which can be ionised, or split into its positive or negative parts," says Dr John Millar, who explains the work in the latest issue of *Physics World*. "We can use it to detect certain pollutants because they have a higher concentration of ions and therefore give a stronger electrical signal."

The method measures the porosity of the rock, but it also allows the permeability of the rock to be calculated. Perme-

ability is a measure of how efficiently the holes in the rock are connected together. This information is essential to water-seekers because the water flows through these holes to the borehole. In the past, explains Dr Millar, permeability has proved very difficult to measure, because it reveals itself only when the fluid is moving.

Their equipment weighs about 10kg and comprises a hammer, plate, electrodes and a laptop computer. "You can run it off a car battery, so you can go off into the bush to find water," says Dr Millar. "It is also very quick. A reading can be taken in ten minutes, and the reading is flashed up as a graph. The computer does all the work for you."

According to Dr Millar, this simple package, which he and his partner are marketing through their company GroundFlow, based near



Marlborough, is a hundredth of the cost of the more hi-and-miss method of drilling boreholes. "If someone wants to do an investigation, they have to drill a pattern of boreholes and take measure-

ments down them, which is expensive. Overseas agencies spend a lot of money on measures such as drilling for clean water. We can help to stop a lot of that money going to waste."

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breath and body odour sexual problems — and how to tackle them ways of preventing stress overload diet and exercise fatherhood — with advice that will benefit both partners! Your health is so important — don't you owe it to yourself to invest in a copy of this essential guide? *The Which? Guide to Men's Health* costs just £9.99 (P&P FREE). To order, send your name and address, the book title and your payment (cheque made payable to Which? Ltd or credit card number with expiry date) to: Which?, PO Box 39, Dept SP11, Hertford, SG14 1TB. Or call FREEPHONE 0800 252 100 (quoting Dept SP11). Orders are normally despatched within 14 days of receipt. Full refund if not satisfied.

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Matthew Parris



■ My ghostly uncle would have hated the formalities but relished the farce that followed

Since the death of my artist uncle, Donald Young, in 1990, my Aunt Joyce has dedicated herself to cataloguing the 600 paintings and drawings her husband left behind. Rooms are stacked with them. Each must be photographed, listed and numbered, alongside the often quirky titles Don found for them.

Joyce is past 70 now, and though she has been unwell, she throws herself at the task with the commitment she showed Don through all their long married life. For decades she supported him by teaching while he paced his studio at home with the obsessive dedication he showed each work. In her cataloguing, Joyce has now reached 490 of 500 paintings. Don was, in my view, an artist, a genius, and from his earliest days at the Chelsea School of Art his work has been a success of *estime* with those who have seen it. The trouble is, too few have. Don but would never have anything to do with publicity. Most infrequently he could be coaxed into an exhibition, which he would

Cigarette and pipe smoke, tea, the cat at his feet and jazz made up Don's atmosphere

probably there, sighing with relief that the room was for a moment empty of people he didn't know.

Upstairs, a harpist was playing. She created a beautiful atmosphere, but it was not Don's atmosphere. Cigarette and pipe smoke and tea, Snowy the cat at his feet, and the sound of Bix Beiderbeck on his record player were Don's atmosphere. He would have been straining at the leash to go — perhaps he was — but Joyce and I stayed, finally leaving together.

The taxi dropped me at Richmond station. I hurried off my train at Clapham Junction to change for Victoria. Another train waited. The doors closed. It departed in the wrong direction. Wimbledon flew past. Trees and stations flew past. It stopped at Surbiton. I leapt out, sprinting over the platform to a waiting train. It pulled out the same way. Fields flew past. We stopped in Esher. I jumped out. This was my first time in Esher. Don, I think, was now beginning to enjoy himself.

The station was unstaffed. I found a timetable. The next train to London was in 20 minutes. Seeing a telephone kiosk, I decided to phone a few friends and share my predicament. Chatting merrily away, I heard the train pull in. I sprinted but — too late.

Standing alone in the dark, on the platform at Esher, I began to smile, then chuckle. The chuckle swelled to a heaving laugh, sub-hysterical, and I simply could not stop. Don, who had not enjoyed himself so much all evening, was laughing with me.

As a neglected election record shows, the great advocate of liberty was selective about its application

For most of my lifetime, I have collected 18th-century books — my first purchase was made in 1940. All collectors find bargains from time to time. Much more rarely, one discovers a book whose significance is either unknown, or has been much underrated. I think that happened to me last Friday.

At the bookselling firm Bernard Quaritch I came across a printed 18th-century poll book. These poll books are all quite rare: they seem only to have been produced when an election result was contested, as part of the legal process of petition. This one is particularly rare: the only recorded copy, to which the one that is now mine must be added, is in the Bodleian Library at Oxford.

The title page reads: "The Bristol Poll Book, being a list of persons who voted at the General Election for the City and County of Bristol, begun Friday, October 7, 1774, and ended Thursday, November 3, at which election the candidates were Robert Cruger, Matthew Brickdale, Henry Cruger and Edmund Burke." This is the poll book of one of the most significant of all election contests, the election in which Burke challenged the American coercion policy of Lord North's Government, and first enunciated the celebrated constitutional doctrine, recently invoked by Alan Howarth, that constituents should not dictate to their Member of Parliament. "His unbiased opinion, his mature judgment, his enlightened conscience, he ought not to sacrifice to you; to any man or to any set of men living." More perhaps than any other single contest, the Bristol election of 1774 raised issues which either changed history or are still alive today — the issues of America, liberty, slavery and the British constitution.

I saw the obvious historic importance, but my purchase was clinched when I found that it contained an item of family history. We named our

Was Burke a little too pragmatic on slavery?

younger son Jacob after Jacob Mogg of Farrington Gurney, a successful 18th-century businessman who led the development of the north Somerset coalfield; he was my great-great-grandmother's great-uncle. He may have owned property in Bristol: any way he had a vote. Did he vote for Edmund Burke on the great theme of conciliation of America? Not at all. He plumped for Matthew Brickdale, the Tory candidate, the supporter of Lord North. I knew my family had been Tories for many generations, but was that not pushing it a bit far?

The story of the election is simple enough. Bristol was a two-member constituency. When polling opened there were three candidates, Crugs, Brickdale and Cruger; Crugs and Brickdale had been the Bristol Members in the previous Parliament. Cruger, who had been born in New York and eventually died in the United States, was a "Wilkes and Liberty" radical. Brickdale was a moderate Tory; Crugs an old-fashioned pro-Government Whig. Early in the poll, Crugs decided to withdraw, and Burke agreed to become a candidate; Burke was a Whig of the Rockingham faction, opposed to Lord North's administration. Brickdale therefore remained as the government candidate, and Cruger and Burke ran together in opposition. When the poll closed, Crugs had 283 votes, Brickdale 2456 and Cruger and Burke were elected with 3565 and 2707 votes respectively. The total electorate voting was 5,384. Brickdale

petitioned against the result, alleging that some 2,000 people had voted who were not entitled to, but his petition failed.

Because of Brickdale's petition, the poll book listed every voter, showing how he voted and giving his occupation. We can trace the details of political connections by parish and trade. Non-residents who were free-men or freeholders of Bristol could vote: 370 Londoners did so, and so did 449 residents of Somerset and 355 of Gloucestershire, the neighbouring

land agent, and perhaps had a hereditary radicalism.

It is known that dissenters, particularly the Methodists and Quakers, supported Cruger and Burke, though the poll book does not give religion. The Church of England was then solidly Tory. Even before withdrawing, Crugs had received 25 clerical votes. Brickdale had 44, but Cruger had eight and Burke only six, one of them from the Rev Walter Trevina, undermaster of Bristol Grammar School.

Burke had a majority of only 251 over Brickdale, who indeed won the seat back in 1780. Where did Burke's majority come from? He had large majorities in the two largest commercial parishes of Bristol — St James and St Philip and Jacob (now, and perhaps then, known colloquially as Pip and Jim). He had a useful majority from the outside voters of London and Bath, and all ten Birmingham voters supported him. When one reads and re-reads the list, Cruger and Burke were plainly the candidates of the rising commercial class. But even that was far from universal. If Michael Willis, shopman of St James, was the ancestor of the greatest and wealthiest of Bristol dynasties, he could certainly claim to belong to this rising class. But he voted for Crugs and Brickdale, the Lord North ticket.

No-one in Bristol, then or since, has put down the occupation "slave trader", but the American trade, and the shipping interest, predominantly voted for Cruger and Burke. If one

takes the occupations of Burke's voters from the first page of the Clifton list, they read: a brightsmith, a boat-builder, a silversmith, two ship's carpenters, two rope-makers, two shipwrights, a sawyer, a yeoman, another rope-maker, another two shipwrights and a mason. At that time, the American colonies were boycotting British traders, including the slave traders. In March 1775, Burke made his great speech to Parliament advocating conciliation with America. There is an equivocal passage in which he opposes the idea of punishing the colonists by liberating their slaves. He thinks even the slaves might be suspicious. "An offer of freedom from England would come rather oddly, shipped to them in an African vessel, which is refused an entry into the ports of Virginia or Carolina, with a cargo of 300 Angola negroes. It would be curious to see the Guinea captain attempting at the same instant to publish his proclamation of liberty and to advertise his sale of slaves."

Yet was not Burke himself in the same moral position as the Guinea captain? He certainly depended on the votes of the Bristol-America trade, which included the Guinea captains, their mariners, their ship's carpenters and their boat-builders. He wanted to conciliate America, but in the interests of these Bristol traders: One did not have to change one's mind about the futility of Lord North's policy of coercion. Yet may not Jacob Mogg have had some reason, after all, to vote for the old-fashioned Tory ticket, rather than for the progressive rhetoric of Burke and the underlying moral inconsistency of his supporters, the Bristol merchants? The rising commercial class who voted for Burke were not to win political power for another 70 years, but the poll book demonstrates that he was elected in 1774 on a Bristol platform which supported liberty for white Americans but slavery for black.

William Rees-Mogg

There was even a voter from America: John Lloyd, merchant of Charleston, South Carolina, voted for Cruger and Burke, the straight opposition ticket. Even in 1774, voting was strongly influenced by class. Most of the gentry voted for Brickdale. Henry Hobhouse, Esq, then living in Clifton, was to be the ancestor of a distinguished Liberal family; he plumped for the Tory. But this was not universal: among the London voters, Stephen Popham, Esq, of Lincoln's Inn Fields, voted for Cruger and Burke. The Pophams, a parliamentary family in the Civil War, had employed John Locke's father as their

Tony Blair's patent mix

Peter Riddell says the new Shadow Cabinet may be in for a disappointment



A new Labour leader considers the prospect of power after more than a decade in opposition. "If elected, I intend to run Number Ten not only as chairman, but as a full-time managing director or chief executive, for my incoming team would have almost no Cabinet or administrative experience." Harold Wilson's predicament in 1964 was similar to Tony Blair's now. As the Shadow Cabinet elections showed, Mr Blair's team is not only inexperienced but contains an embarrassing number of duds. This will affect not just his leadership style, but whether he strengthens the office of Prime Minister.

A Prime Minister has many duties and powers — around three dozen according to Peter Hennessy's *The Hidden Wiring*. But as Asquith said, the office is "what its holder chooses and is able to make of it". There has been a lengthy and largely sterile debate about whether we have moved from Cabinet government to a more presidential system. But in reality, much has depended on personalities and circumstances, and there have been variations within the course of any premiership. Professor Anthony King describes in *The British Prime Minister* how "the badly battered Harold Wilson of 1967-69 was a very different Prime Minister from the triumphant Wilson of 1964-66" for the self-styled "deep-lying centre-half" of 1974-76. Margaret Thatcher was more constrained by senior colleagues, and by events, at the beginning and end of her premiership than in her dominant middle phase. John Major has operated a more collegial style, involving the Cabinet, and its committees, in key decisions.

If there is no enduring model for Mr Blair, the closest parallels are with Wilson in 1963-64. In some ways, Mr Blair is in a worse position. Unlike Wilson, he has no experience of government, and by the next election Labour will have been out of office for about 18 years, compared with 13 years in 1964. He is also much more restricted by Labour's rule that the pre-election Shadow Cabinet should all go into the first Cabinet. In the 1960s, and up to 1981, the Shadow Cabinet was only 12, so Wilson could include talented outsiders such as Barbara Castle and Richard Crossman. Wilson made it clear that "he doesn't think anything of the Shadow Cabinet", which in 1963 included stalwarts like "Dick Mitchinson, senile at 73" (according to Crossman's *Backbench Diaries*). Wilson eased

Mitchinson out with a life peerage, and made one of the others just a minister of state. Only four of the pre-election Shadow Cabinet were still in the Cabinet after three years.

That example may appeal to Mr Blair, faced with an elected Shadow Cabinet of 19, including the chief whip. The team elected last Wednesday by Labour MPs — the main unreconstructed "old" section of the party — contains at least half a dozen people he would probably not want in any Cabinet. Three of the posts held by elected members — number two at education and employment, disabled rights and overseas development — are not currently in the Cabinet, while three jobs in John Major's

Cabinet (national heritage, Chief Secretary and public services) are shadowed by MPs not elected last week. Other promising MPs who might be in a Blair Cabinet did badly in the elections.

As a powerful new Prime Minister, Mr Blair might choose simply to ignore party rules. But even if some elected mediocrities are sidelined as ministers of state, his initial Cabinet would be one of the least experienced ever. Although talented younger MPs are being put in middle-ranking shadow posts, and might be promoted quickly in government, there is no one around with the brains of a Tony Crosland or of Roy Jenkins, who joined the Wilson Cabinet within 15 months of the 1964 election. Mr Blair would have to depend on an inner group — John Prescott, Gordon

Brown and Robin Cook — though, like their predecessors, Morrison, Bevin, Dalton and Cripps in the late 1940s, and Callaghan, Brown, Jenkins and Castle in the 1960s, they are very wary of each other. Hence the addition to this trio of Donald Dewar as chief whip is significant, since not only is he shrewd but he can handle the prickly egos of the others.

In opposition, much of the shift in Labour's policies has been driven from the leader's office or by Mr Brown on the economic side. Mr Blair will have to decide both whether to follow Wilson's chief executive example of 1964-65 and whether to reinstate the Downing Street machinery. Jonathan Powell, a former diplomat with knowledge of Whitehall, is consulting former ministers and civil servants.

These issues have, coincidentally, been aired by the reviews of *Too Close to Call*, Sarah Hogg and Jonathan Hill's account of the Major premiership. Douglas Hurd urged both the revival of the think-tank the Central Policy Review Staff (abolished in 1983), and the appointment of a minister of state as chief of staff in No 10. During the Thatcher years, Lord Young of Gramham was considered for the post. But this idea has been rejected by Sir Charles Powell, former Downing Street private secretary and brother of Mr Blair's chief of staff, since it might create ministerial jealousies and dilute authority. He believes the current tight organisation can react more quickly than a larger, more formal, prime minister's department.

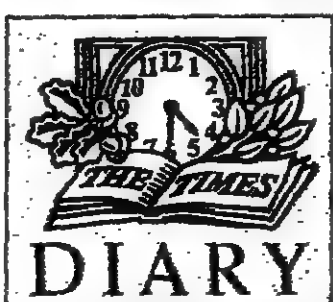
The last, however, will be how Mr Blair himself responds to the pressure of events. In opposition, he has impressed people by his single-mindedness and grasp, although he can be temporarily depressed by setbacks such as the leaked strategy memo six weeks ago. He has said how he admires Margaret Thatcher's clear sense of direction and determination. But he should remember how frustrated she, and most of her predecessors, became with the constraints they faced. The power of a Prime Minister always looks greater from outside.

Time please

WITH the death yesterday of Sir Kingsley Amis, London has lost a pugnacious fan of the pre-prandial snifter. Every afternoon, he installed himself in the same chair in the window of the Garrick Club bar. And every afternoon, he was one of the last to head downstairs for lunch.

The splenetic author had become such an institution in his chair at the club that the committee had approached him recently with a view to commissioning a portrait of him. "They felt they needed to update their collection of pictures, and were going to get some watercolours done of the current members," says one member. "He was on the list and he had agreed to the portrait."

Whether a portrait of Sir Kingsley will be hung posthumously remains to be seen, but members have been missing his irascible presence at the bar, where he hasn't been seen since he fell ill in the summer. "His absence has created a vacuum," says one claret-nosed clubman. "The bar empties earlier now, whereas Kingsley could be relied upon to stay until the last minute, at 2 o'clock."



● From the weekly information sheet of St Peter's Catholic Church Winchester, with St Thomas More's and St Stephen's: "One World Week Events: This Tuesday — 50th Anniversary of the United Nations — Day Conference on 'Landmines' at the Priory Hall from 10.00am to 4.00pm. This Saturday, Gathering the Fragments 2, from 3.30 to 9.00pm in Winchester Cathedral."

Own goal

JACK STRAW, the Shadow Home Secretary, adamantly denied BBC accusations yesterday that he was living low and trying to avoid the press after his lacklustre performance in the Commons on Thursday against Michael Howard. "It's easy to find me," he says. "When Blackburn are playing

away, I spend the weekend in Oxfordshire. But when they're playing at home, I'm in Blackburn." To relax, Straw took his children to see the film *Red Firecracker, Green Firecracker*, billed as a "sumptuous, enjoyably OTT melodrama of ill-starred passion". Almost the exact opposite of Straw's stumbling performance on Thursday.

World tour

A LUNATIC promotional tour has been dreamt up by Del Leppard, a supposedly musical outfit specialising in heavy metal. The group are to play three concerts in three continents in a day, in an attempt to win a place in *The Guinness Book of Records*. They will play their first chord on stage in Tangier this morning at one minute past midnight, then fly to Heathrow for a "gig" in London at 11.30am, and finally take off to play in Vancouver at 9pm the same evening. Locals the world over are stocking up on ear muffs.

Billy-ho

HALF the world went missing without trace last Tuesday. Asia, Australia, Africa and Eastern Europe disappeared after half a giant

map of the world was stolen from the busy offices of a public relations company in Soho.

What on earth anyone would want with half a map, painted on canvases weighing 130lb, is hard to fathom. It had been made to tour Britain to celebrate the 35th anniversary of the boardgame Risk, and was to be the scene of a variety



of battles. Phillida de la Billiere, who works for the company, had been entrusted with the vital prop when half of it went missing. She will doubtless turn for help to her father, General Sir Peter de la Billiere, Commander of the British Forces during the Gulf War, who never lost his charts.

● At the Edmund Burke Society dinner in London last week, Conor Cruise O'Brien gave a talk based on his biography of the great Irish statesman. As a former Minister of Posts and Telegraphs in Dublin, he has already begun canvassing for a stamp to commemorate the 1997 bicentenary of Burke's death — but he generously offered his support if "the sister island" wishes to take up the idea.

Full bodied

THE CRUSTIER oenophiles all but choked on their claret the other day when Chateau Mouton Rothschild unveiled its label for the 1993 vintage. After a sharp intake of breath, the wine world pronounced the drawing of a naked young girl by Balthus a little too fruity by half. Mouton Rothschild has invited painters to decorate its *Vin extraordinary* every year since 1945. Dali, Miró, Chagall, Bacon and



Balthus's fruity number

even Warhol all daubed their marks on Baroness Philippine de Rothschild's bottles of the finest claret. Swiss-based Balthus chose to provoke, and the company is delighted: "The fragile and mysterious adolescent girl he has drawn for Mouton Rothschild 1993 seems to hint at some secret promise of undiscovered pleasure — a pleasure to be shared."

P.H.S



WHERE THE BUCK STOPS

Devolution of prison management has limits

There is a silver lining to the cloud of litigation, claim and counter-claim which now obscures the argument over the sacking of the Governor of Parkhurst prison. The unfinished row between the Home Secretary and the departed Director-General of the Prison Service, exacerbated by the intervention of prison governors at the weekend, has reached a point at which greater clarity must descend on the troubled relationship between ministers and the agencies to which they devolve "operational responsibility".

The creation of semi-independent agencies created to administer everything from the Prison Service and the social security system down to the National Weights and Measures Laboratory is one of the greatest revolutions in government of the past decade. Acting to cure an organisational culture averse to change, and a poisoned industrial relations climate, the Government devolved the management of the Prison Service in 1993. If ministers then believed that they could present and operate this change as a straightforward devolution of authority, the escapes from Whitemoor and Parkhurst prisons will have set them straight.

Public safety is one of the core responsibilities of elected government and ministers. One of three prisoners who escaped from Parkhurst had made threats against those who had put him in prison and was considered dangerous. Police protection was provided to the trial judge and several policemen involved in the case until the prisoner had been recaptured. In such instances, a distinction between "policy" and "operations" can only serve to weaken the chain of accountability which should connect citizens and the political authorities responsible for public safety. As the Learmont report on the Parkhurst breakout emphasises, many "management" decisions on the details of everyday working life for prison staff make a difference to morale and

efficiency. Numbers of escapes tend to rise in inefficient and demoralised prisons.

To underline the intertwined responsibilities of managers and ministers is not to question the principle of giving the Prison Service some independence of the kind which it enjoyed earlier this century. But there is a faint element of parody in the Next Steps review of agencies which sandwiches HM Prison Service between Historic Scotland and the HMSO. Each agency needs a relationship with government which reflects the characteristics of the work in hand. Increasing local control, to bring prisons closer to police forces, would solve little: police forces win public trust by the quality of their contacts with a local community. Prisons are not local institutions in anything like the same sense: the political and financial issues of holding high-security prisoners must be handled at national level.

The Prison Service can raise its own badly damaged morale only if its managers are free to set their own priorities. But the sensitivity of prison custody must mean that the buck stops on the Home Secretary's desk.

The key to making this relationship work is transparency. The House of Commons debate on the sacking of the Parkhurst governor shed some welcome light on how Michael Howard and Derek Lewis actually faced the Parkhurst crisis. The Home Office should commit itself to being regularly open on how this pivotal relationship works. If the Prison Service is to have a future as an agency, a Home Secretary must confine his or her interventions to guidelines necessary to retain public confidence. The Prison Service top management cannot therefore be held solely accountable for every mishap, but it should be for the quality of management. To retain the enduring confidence of the public and prison staff, both sides of this partnership need to be seen to work together.

GROWLING IN THE KREMLIN

Russian nationalism puts the pressure on Yeltsin

President Yeltsin has talks with President Clinton today that will, inevitably, end with a joint profession of common aims and common values. Mr Yeltsin will underline his commitment to market reform; Mr Clinton will salute East-West co-operation and the inclusion of Russia in America's strategic calculations. Both sides need to demonstrate, by exaggerated gesture and exuberant rhetoric, that the old days of suspicion and hostility are over. Their words should be treated with caution. More attention should be paid to the deepening differences between Moscow and Washington, and the new notes of strident nationalism sounded in the Kremlin.

Kremlin-watchers, otiose after the advent of glasnost, are again in demand. For the signs in Moscow are increasingly alarming. Russia is returning to old traditions of secrecy and authoritarianism. As the elections for the Duma approach, politicians are competing with each other to assert Russia's power, denounce the West, pandering to nationalist sentiment and distance themselves from free market liberalism. The opinion polls show the Communists now ahead in the scrum of poorly organised factions. That, in itself, is no real cause for worry: Russia is unlikely to return to Brezhnevite Communism even if the party is victorious. More ominous is the broad agreement among Communists, hardline nationalists and, increasingly, those who once represented the Centre, on an assertive new platform that spurns co-operation with the West, champions the Serb cause, denounces Nato expansion, insists on Russian hegemony over the former Soviet republics and, under the guise of law and order, calls for a crackdown on the press.

free marketers and the perceived Western exploitation of Russia's economic weakness.

President Yeltsin, increasingly a Brezhnev figure in uncertain health and surrounded by cronies, is still shrewd enough to realise that he needs the votes of this growing constituency if he and his Government are to survive. His strident rhetoric and erratic behaviour may, in part, be put down to his volcanic temperament — long dormant and then unpredictably explosive. But his extraordinary public dismissal of Andrei Koryev, suspended while the two make their rounds in New York, is a sop to the nationalist clamour and a clear signal that Russia intends to be a more difficult partner for the West. Using the Foreign Minister as a punchbag is an old Kremlin ploy, as Andrei Gromyko knew. Patience and flexibility may keep Mr Koryev in office for a while yet. But if and when he is replaced, any successor must clearly distance himself from the generally co-operative policies followed by the lonely liberal survivor in the Russian Government.

The approaching Duma election has highlighted the popular resentment against Russia's post-Communist disorder. But that disorder now threatens the entire process of democratic and market reform. Organised crime is seeping through the arteries of Russian society and poisoning the body politic. It is scaring away Western investment, widening the gap between rich and poor and endangering the whole cause of reform. Mr Yeltsin is leading a tottering society into an uncertain future, and is invoking old Russian prejudices to shore up his position. The West will need nerves and patience: Kremlinologists are pointing to an unpredictable and darkening future.

TIME TO CHANGE TIME

The annual switch to GMT costs lives and money

Imagine you are a politician. You are presented with a choice between two policies. One is almost universally hated, the other is known to be popular. One policy is guaranteed to kill children, the other to save their lives. One saves public money and is supported by the business community, the other increases public spending and damages Britain's ability to do business abroad. Which policy do you choose?

If you are John Major or Tony Blair, you choose the policy that wastes money, kills children, makes people miserable and which nearly everybody dislikes. You take it upon yourself to decree that it is winter even though the warmth of the sunshine and the blue skies plead for the continuation of summer. In the last week of October each year you inflict on the British public the misery of Greenwich Mean Time.

Greenwich Mean Time was designed for an agrarian society in which people habitually rose almost as many hours before dawn as they went to bed after dusk. To adapt time to the way people now want to live in Britain would be trivially easy. Either the Government could abolish the annual ritual of changing time and stay throughout the year on British Summer Time; or it could create an extra hour of afternoon sunlight in both the winter and summer by putting Britain permanently on Central European Time.

Either option would be wildly popular and would save the lives of hundreds of

children, who are known to be at far greater risk of road accidents during dark evenings than mornings. Abolishing GMT would save public money, not only through the costs of accidents to the National Health Service but also because of the costs of heating and lighting government offices in the dark afternoons. It would boost government revenues by increasing tourism in Britain, which suffers a big fall during the months of afternoon darkness. Why then have all politicians ignored this appealing idea?

One reason is simple lack of imagination. But there are two more sinister forces at work. The first is the apparent dread of anything which might be represented as "giving in to Brussels" or harmonising with Europe. This is the kind of Euro-septic fanaticism which could give the entire movement a bad name.

The second reason is even more preposterous. It is the apparent veto power which tiny vested interests can acquire over politicians. Some farmers, especially in Scotland, claim they would be inconvenienced by the abolition of GMT. A few thousand of these farmers, who already depend on lavish subsidies for their commercial survival, may sway a handful of marginal seats.

Therefore 50 million other people must fall into line, Scotland (which relies far more on tourism than any other part of Britain) must suffer huge economic losses and children must die on the roads. This is no way to run a democracy.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

Opportunities in the Budget for cutting taxes

From Mr John Sinclair, FCA

Sir, Kenneth Baker, in his article suggesting ways in which the Chancellor could use his Budget to encourage enterprise ("The taxes that we should cut", October 17), appears to be unaware that employees' National Insurance contributions cease on earnings above £22,880 per annum. The marginal rate of tax on employment earnings above that level is thus 40 per cent, not the 50 per cent he cites.

Mr Baker also shows some muddled thinking. There may well be a case for treating capital gains as income; but to remove taxation on capital gains, as he advocates, or to offer significantly more favourable rates, would lead to decisions based upon tax avoidance rather than objective criteria.

If we tax all forms of income there is a very strong case for eliminating the double taxation that results from inheritance tax. If parents have worked hard, paid their taxes and saved to provide for their children, there is no moral or economic justification for penalising the transfer of those savings to their children, whether anyone else thinks they are "deserving" or not.

The general principle of taxation should surely be that all income, whether from employment, investment or capital gain, must be taxed once only at rates that are not a disincentive to enterprise and within a system that is neutral in terms of individuals' choice as to how they produce that income.

Yours faithfully,
J. SINCLAIR,
The Coach House,
Great Finborough,
Stowmarket, Suffolk.
October 18.

From Mr A. Kelson

Sir, Kenneth Baker's suggestion of tapering capital gains tax would help the elderly and frail to pay nursing or residential home fees. When the need to raise money arises unexpectedly, a person may be forced to sell investments. The current CGT annual al-

lowance becomes almost insignificant when compared with annual care fees.

Insurance companies allow for reduced life expectancy in so-called impaired life annuities (also known as continuing care plans), but the Inland Revenue calculates the capital payback on normal life expectancy. The annual capital payback is thus reduced: the income element is increased with a corresponding increase in annual tax.

For example, a 74-year-old woman with a normal life expectancy of 13 years, but reduced to seven years by infirmity, pays an extra £807 a year tax — £5,649 over seven years — on an annuity purchased for £30,000.

The Government is said to be discussing helping those paying for care (report, October 19). I hope some conclusions will be revealed in the autumn Budget.

Yours faithfully,
A. KELSON,
15 York Avenue,
New Milton, Hampshire.
October 19.

From Lord McIntosh of Haringey

Sir, If Mr Kenneth Baker understands so little about the yield of capital gains tax (CGT) I fear for his business career when he leaves the House of Commons.

It is not surprising that the yield of capital gains did not increase in proportion when the rate was raised to match that of income tax. When CGT rates were lower than income tax rates, high earners and those with expensive and clever tax advisers made sure that their earnings came in the form of capital gains, so reducing their tax burden. Many thousands of hours of Inland Revenue time must have been taken up in attempting to counter this evidence.

And if, as Mr Baker seems to suggest, CGT were to be tapered out, beyond the existing provision for inflation, all the old avoidance dodges would be brought out and dusted off. It would be fascinating to observe the changes in the balance between salary

and share options of, for example, directors of privatised utilities.

Yours faithfully,
ANDREW MCINTOSH,
House of Lords,
October 19.

From Mr D. I. Brocklesby, FCA

Sir, If the Government wishes to cut public spending why not start by merging the DSS with the Inland Revenue?

A rate of, say, 7.35 per cent could be applied for National Insurance purposes, with no upper limit. In this way not only could higher-rate tax begin at a higher level but the penal 10.2 per cent employers' National Insurance contributions, which are a disincentive to employment, could also be reduced.

Perhaps if more people are employed, social security payments will be reduced. The starting salary on which the ever-growing number of part-time employees pay National Insurance could also be increased.

Kenneth Baker seems to think that the "fat cats" have a raw deal when it comes to capital gains tax. Haven't we got retirement relief, roll-over relief, reinvestment relief, personal equity plans, annual exemption (of as much as £12,000 for those still married) and indexation? If people wish to spend the gain other than paying into a pension policy why on earth shouldn't they be taxed?

Yours truly,
DON BROCKLESBY,
91 West Ella Road, Kirk Ella, Hull.

From Mr W. A. Somers

Sir, Can any of your pundits please tell me how, when it is common knowledge that to receive money from the State leads to dependency culture, moral degeneracy and goodness knows what other ills, to inherit it in large quantities would build up a class of people fit to govern Britain?

Yours sincerely,
TONY SOMERS,
15 Philbeach Gardens, SW5.

Quebec referendum

From Dr Ged Martin

Sir, On October 30 the people of Quebec will vote on a proposition to proclaim the sovereignty of their province and so begin the process of secession from Canada.

Given our long historical links with Canada, some in Britain may feel that we should not stand silently by at this crucial moment, as Quebec determines its future and the future of Canada as we know it.

It may therefore be timely to draw attention to the editorial sentiments of *The Times* as a former period of tension between English and French-speaking Canadians, which I quote with slight abbreviation:

As regards the affairs of Canada, ... whatever the quarrels of the two races may be, it is clearly no part of our duty to take part in them. We are the friends of both sides, and can act for or against neither ... Canada has the power of shaping her own destiny, and it is neither possible (if it were wise, nor wise if it were possible, to interfere.

We no longer think of Canada's two founding peoples as "races", but in all other aspects, Sir, these sentiments remain as appropriate in October 1995 as they were when you first published them on June 17, 1861.

Yours sincerely,
GED MARTIN
(Dr)
Centre of Canadian Studies,
University of Edinburgh,
21 George Square, Edinburgh 8.
October 22.

Good eggs

From Mr J. E. Jenkins

Sir, There appears to be a slight misunderstanding in your article on the Delia lady ("Britain's favourite dinner lady", October 17) on the problem of determining whether or not an egg is fresh we are advised, "it must float in water".

In case your readers are bemused, they may wish to consult the *Oracle*, pages 20 and 21 of *Delia Smith's Complete Cookery Course* (1992), where she actually writes: place one [egg] in a bowl of cold water: if it sits on the bottom in a horizontal position, the egg is very fresh. On the other hand, if it lies on a semi-vertical position, it is less fresh; and stale if it pops up into a completely vertical position.

Yours sincerely,
JOHN JENKINS,
6 Orchard End,
Rowledge, Farnham, Surrey.
October 17.

Off the hook

From Mrs Vivienne Ollerearnshaw

Sir, Mr Neil Riley would like to know how he and his wife should celebrate making their last mortgage payment (letters, October 13, 18).

Whatever they do, they should try not to dwell on the figure they have paid in total for their house over 25 years; otherwise the desire to celebrate the happy day will be wiped out.

Yours faithfully,
VIVIANNE OLLEREARNSHAW,
4 Oxford Gardens,
Mammamead, Plymouth, Devon.
October 18.

Jail security from either side of fence

From Matthew Williams

Sir, Re the current rather unsavoury scenes of indignation and betrayal caused by my (and two others') escape from Parkhurst earlier this year (report, January 4; leading article, January 5; letters, January 6, 7, 8, 12).

It will come as no surprise to Britain's prisoners that not a single member of staff at any level has been prepared to accept personal responsibility for their failings. Indeed, it is standard procedure to avoid blame for anything that goes wrong in prison, whether it be an escape, a suicide, bungled policies, poor education and training etc.

The issue of "responsibility" over my escape is just another example of this practice — though unfortunately for the prison "managers" it has resulted in their incompetence, dishonesty and total lack of integrity being spectacularly exposed to public view.

The scenes of frenzied back-stabbing and blame-shifting between these "professionals" give a brilliant insight into the reality of prison conditions: nobody knows what they are doing, nor do they care. As long as the papers don't get hold of it, it is acceptable.

Unlike all others concerned, I have no compunction about accepting my full responsibility for having escaped.

Science marking

From Mr G. G. Able

Sir, I was dismayed to see letters from Sir Arnold Wolfendale and Dr Nick Daley (October 18) repeating the statement in your brief report of October 12 that five headteachers' associations had called for A levels to be marked less strictly.

As a co-author of the relevant document I must point out that we are merely asking that grade boundaries should be adjusted so that it is equally easy, or difficult, to get corresponding grades in the mathematics and the sciences, which according to research are currently more difficult, or in the arts and social sciences.

We did not argue either way as to whether this should be achieved by the raising of grade boundaries in other subjects or by the lowering of grade boundaries in mathematics and sciences, as both will have the same effect.

Yours faithfully,
G. G. ABLE
(Headmaster),
Hampton School, Hanworth Road,
Hampton, Middlesex.
October 18.

Care or cure?

From Mrs M. Merrington

Sir, The cost of caring at home for someone with multiple sclerosis is, by my calculation, £31,000 a year. The cost of arresting the disease by the use of a new drug (Dr Graham Prowse's letter today) is £11,000 a year. Take your choice.

Yours faithfully,
MAXINE MERRINGTON,
Parrots,
Rogate, Petersfield, Hampshire.
October 9.

I will take what's coming to me, no doubt to be meted out at the Home Office's leisure over many years.

Unfortunately for me, however, I do not have the option of resignation with a golden handshake, and a CBE when I'm 60.

Yours sincerely,
M. V. WILLIAMS,
HMP Frankland, Braxside, Durham.
October 18.

From Mr David Green

Sir, Michael Legge (letter, October 21) asks when the rules of confidentiality governing civil servants changed. They changed when the Home Secretary sacked Derek Lewis, so exposing himself to litigation in which relevant facts might enter the public domain and be legally privileged if published.

This is to the good. Ministers will now have to reflect on the wisdom of refusing responsibility for departmental deficiencies. The constitutional implications should endure long after Derek Lewis is forgotten.

Yours faithfully,
DAVID GREEN,
Rhyd yr Hwaring,
Castell Morris,
Nr Haverfordwest, Dyfed.
October 21.

A 'Ring' too far?

From Dr Humphrey Marten

Sir, I see from the photograph accompanying the review of the new production of *Götterdämmerung* at Covent Garden ("Music making of the highest order", Arts and report, "Covent Garden jeers *The Ring*", October 16) that Brünnhilde wears a paper bag, and the Gibichungs wear tin hats.

What brilliance! What originality! But I gather that no conductor has yet had the brilliance and originality to introduce saxophones, electric guitars and thunderflashes into the *Ring* orchestra.

Like the *Odyssey*, the *Aeneid* and *Paradise Lost*, the *Ring* lies in a mythological world. I do not know in what world the soul of Wagner lies, but I am sure that he is longing for the day when (to borrow a saying from France) the last producer is strangled with the bowels of the last stage designer.

Yours faithfully,
HUMPHREY MARTEN,
6 Barnsley Road,
Edgbaston, Birmingham 17.
October 16.

From Mr Joseph Fitton

Sir, Your photograph says it all: *Götterdämmerung*, indeed!

If this is indeed opera "for our time", as your reviewer says it is, I shall save a lot of money in my retirement.

Yours faithfully,
JOSEPH FITTON,
Great Howarth House,
Wardle Road, Rochdale, Lancashire.
October 16.

Letters should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be faxed to 0171-782-5046.

The right address in cyberspace

From Mr Philip Sweetenham

Sir, I was gently amused by Mr David Smythe's letter of October 16, asserting that our registration numbers and telephone numbers are more comprehensible and more memorable than Internet addresses.

First, consider the BBC's world wide web site (which provides information on BBC broadcasting in words and pictures), whose address is <http://www.bbc.org.uk> (no "dot" at the end). The start of the address tells the reader that it can be accessed by the world wide web (formally by using the hyper-text transfer protocol — http) and (reading the address from right to left) the computer is in the UK. It is owned by an organisation, namely the BBC's networking club, and the computer is especially named by its function of providing world wide web (www) pages for people to read.

My own electronic mail address is philip.sweetenham@aetn.co.uk — that is simply my name "at" the UK company, AEA Technology, where I work.

I agree with Mr Smythe that to the uninitiated Internet addresses are not obvious — neither are telephone numbers. Telephones have been around for longer than the Internet. Hence there are far fewer lay telephone users than Internet lay people. Given the benefits of this new technology (such as more information available more cheaply and to a wider audience), that situation is changing rapidly.

Yours faithfully,
PHILIP SWEETENHAM,
7 Betty Lane, Oxford.
October 17.

From Mr Nick Rosen

Sir, My own e-mail address, which is nick@intervid.co.uk, tells Mr Smythe that I am a subscriber via a commercial organisation based in the UK and named Intervid. www.acx.co.uk is the address for a world wide web (www) page belonging to a British academic institution (ac.uk) — namely Oxford University.

A misconception seems to exist that every address needs to start <http://>. In fact, however, the address works just as well without it, so that www.whitehouse.gov would take you to the Washington White House page; so would <http://www.whitehouse.gov> (US addresses do not require a country code, which gives them a competitive advantage).

The conventions are very straightforward; it is simply a matter of getting to know them.

Yours etc,
NICK ROSEN (Managing Director),
Intervid Ltd,
22-24 Buckingham Palace Road, SW1.
October 16.

Credit for Skye Bridge

From Dr J. C. Gibbings

Sir, It ill behoves architects, whose fellow professionals design buildings that ape the appearance of a chemical works, to then disparage the shape of the Skye Bridge ("Beautiful Skye's best of a bridge", October 16). Understandably, not having the engineering skills to design any but the most elementary of stressed structures, they would not appreciate the design problems involved.

When a great building is completed the media names the architect for his achievement; and rightly so. But for the Skye Bridge, there is no mention — even in your columns known for their understanding of engineering — of the names of any of the individual engineers, British or German, responsible for this great achievement.

There are modern-day equivalents of the great Victorian engineers who were lauded in your columns in those times. And then you and your contributors ponder on why the brightest of school pupils do not go into the engineering profession.

Yours sincerely,
J. C. GIBBINGS,
The University of Liverpool,
Department of Mechanical Engineering,
PO Box 147, Liverpool L69 3BX.
October 18.

Poppy scratchcards

From Mrs Julie Nightingale

Sir, Whilst applauding the Royal British Legion for joining the scratchcard race, on the "if you can't beat 'em, join 'em" principle (report, October 19), we should note that only 20p of every £1 spent in this way goes to Service personnel.

If instead people buy poppies in the street as usual but give twice as much as usual, they will know that all their money goes directly to the British Legion.

Yours sincerely,
JULIE NIGHTINGALE,
49a Hornon Street, W8.
October 19.

Lottery awards

From Mr Alun Thomas

Sir, Surely we can dispense with the services of Lords Gowrie, Rothschild, et al. The recipients of the lottery money should be decided by lot.

Yours faithfully,
ALUN THOMAS,
23 St Mary's Road, Ealing, W5.
October 17.



COURT CIRCULAR

CLARENCE HOUSE
October 21: Dame Frances Campbell-Preston has succeeded the Hon Mrs Rhodes as Lady-in-Waiting to Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother.

THATCHED HOUSE LODGE RICHMOND PARK
October 21: Princess Alexandra, accompanied by the Hon Sir Angus Ogilvy, was received by the President of the Republic of Senegal in Dakar.

Her Royal Highness and the Hon Sir Angus Ogilvy later attended a Reception given by the British Ambassador in Senegal.

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
October 22: The Duke of Edinburgh, President, World Wide Fund for Nature - WWF International, and Founder, The Duke of Edinburgh's Award International Association, left Heathrow Airport, London, this evening

for South Africa. Sir Brian McGrath is in attendance.

ST JAMES'S PALACE
October 22: The Prince of Wales this afternoon gave a Reception for members of the Scottish Mountain Rescue Teams at Balmoral Castle, KENSINGTON PALACE.

October 22: The Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon, was present at a concert in aid of King George's Fund for Sailors, at the Theatre Royal, Drury Lane, London WC2.

THATCHED HOUSE LODGE RICHMOND PARK
October 22: Princess Alexandra, accompanied by the Hon Sir Angus Ogilvy, today visited the offices of World Vision International at Thies and the World Vision Water Project at Golobe, and later toured Goree Island, Senegal.

Service dinners

HMY Britannia
Commodore Anthony Morrow, Commodore Royal Yachts, was present on Saturday night when officers of the Royal Yacht Britannia held their Trafalgar Night dinner at sea in the waters off Cape Trafalgar. Commander Hugh Dalgleish presided and proposed the toast to the Immortal Memory.

HMS Vanguard (Port)
The officers of Port Crew, HMS Vanguard, held a dinner at sea (held) on Saturday night to mark the 100th Anniversary of Vice Admiral Viscount Nelson's victory at Trafalgar. The Commanding Officer, Commander P.J. Wilkinson, RN, was Guest of Honour, Lieutenant Commander G.A. Newton, RN, presided.

HMS Victory
Admiral Sir Michael Boyce, Second Sea Lord and Commander-in-Chief Naval Home Command, presided and proposed the toast to the Immortal Memory at a Trafalgar night dinner held on Saturday in HMS Victory to mark the anniversary of the Battle of

Trafalgar. Lieutenant-Commander M. Noble proposed the toast to the Immortal Memory. Commander M.D. Simpson, Commanding Officer, was present.

HMS Claverhouse
Commodore Sir John Clark proposed the toast to the Immortal Memory at the annual Trafalgar Night dinner of the Claverhouse Association of Former Officers held on Saturday night at the New Club, Edinburgh. Lieutenant-Commander J.H.F. Dempster presided.

Defence Postal and Courier Services
Brigadier T. McG. Brown presided at the annual reunion dinner of the Defence Postal and Courier Services Officers' Association held on Saturday at Simpsons-in-the-Strand. Among those present were: Sir Iain Vallance, Chairman of BT, Mr Richard Morison, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Defence, Mr Peter Howard, Managing Director Royal Mail, Mr Kevin Williams, Managing Director Parcelforce, Brigadier Peter Chambers, Director Logistic Support Policy, and Colonel Cynthia Duggan, Deputy Director, US Military Postal Service Agency.



Theresa Holroyd, a teacher at the Manchester centre, instructs students in English

Chinese women feel more at home in centre

By KATE ALDERSON

THE pressures of living in Britain for a group of Chinese women who felt isolated by the difficulties they encountered led them to set up a communal centre in Manchester.

The Wai Yin (Wisdom & Beauty) Chinese Women's Society was established in 1988 by a handful of Chinese women. The initial aim was to help them to confront the problem of not being fluent in English, a disadvantage which had left many feeling depressed and remote from English society.

Over the last seven years the society has established the centre, which has 300 members and offers a wide range of services to its 30 to 40 daily users.

Kin Chew, the manager, said that in the past those attending were mainly over the age of 35. This year, however, a pilot project called Young Chinese Women has been launched to attract those aged between 15 and 25. The project is funded with money from Europe.

"We found that we needed to encourage young Chinese women to interact and socialise," she said. "There



have proved popular with English speakers. Computer training, calligraphy courses, opera singing classes and advice on benefits and council services form key components of the service.

Staff are a handful of volunteers, who also form the management committee, and two full-time and four part-time workers.

The centre began life without funding but has since received money from the Home Office and the local authority. Very little funding has been made available to the centre by the Chinese business community.

It will move to new ground-floor premises later this month from its second-floor venue to enable the centre to be reopened and to ease access for the elderly, children and the disabled.

The centre has been shortlisted for the 1995 Community Enterprise Awards organised by Business in the Community and sponsored by The Times and Touche Ross. The names of the winners will be announced later this year.

Schools news

King's House School
From July 1, 1996, King's House School is organising a week of events to celebrate the foundation 50 years ago. On the first evening there will be a service in St Mary's Church, Richmond, followed by a concert, plays and a music hall. On July 6 a Jubilee Ball will complete the celebrations. King's House is inviting past pupils to contact the School at 68 King's Road, Richmond, TW9 1DS, or telephone 0181 940 1578 if they would be interested in attending any of the events, and to pass this notice on to any of their contemporaries who they know would like to join in. Further details will be sent out in the new year.

The School wants to trace any of the 24 Old Boys who started when the school was first opened by Mr Ron Patten in September 1946 or shortly afterwards. A reunion dinner could be arranged.

Solihull School
The Governors of Solihull School are pleased to announce that they have appointed Mr P.S.J. Derham, MA, as Headmaster of Solihull School to succeed Mr A. Lee, MA, who will be retiring at the end of the Summer Term 1996. Mr Derham is presently a Housemaster and Head of History at Radley College.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr D.H. Brown and Miss J.R. Green
The engagement is announced between David, youngest son of Mr and Mrs Sydney Brown, of Harborne, Birmingham, and Julia, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs Jack Green, of Taunton, Somerset.

Mr K. Jackson and Miss H. Spragg
The engagement is announced between Keith, younger son of Mr and Mrs Arthur Jackson, of Elvesthorpe, Leicestershire, and Hannah, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs David Spragg, of Calverton, Leicestershire.

Mr R.A.H. Mander-Smedley and Miss C.V.M. Knight
The engagement is announced between Robert, elder son of Mr and Mrs Andrew Mander-Smedley, of The Glebe House, Bayton, near Kidderminster, Worcestershire, and Claudia, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs Wyndham Knight, of Wakeford Farm House, Pamber End, Basingstoke, Hampshire.

M.P.A. Neri and Miss L.S.J. Desmond
The engagement is announced between Philip, only son of M and Mrs B. Neri, of Glin, Switzerland, and Louise, daughter of Mr D.F. Desmond, of Ayot St Lawrence, Hertfordshire, and Mrs K.S. Gardner, of Welwyn, Hertfordshire.

Mr D.P. Robinson and Miss M.M. Burke
The engagement is announced between David, elder son of Mr Brendan Robinson, of Godstone, Surrey, and Mrs Kathleen Burke, of Sale, Cheshire, and Michelle, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs Michael Burke, of Shrewsbury, Shropshire.

Mr D. Valle and Miss S. Garcia
The forthcoming marriage is announced and will take place on October 26, in London, between Dimas Valle and Stella Garcia.

Landale, Hugh Stanley and Malcolm Hamilton, Lord Dalmeny
was best man.

A reception was held at Audley End, and the honeymoon will be spent abroad.

Mr M.I.R. Bett-Beruto and Miss S.M. Parrell
The marriage took place on Saturday at St Mary's, Cadogan Street, of Mr Marco Bett-Beruto, only son of Signor Carlo Bett-Beruto, of Rome, and of Mrs Marianna Scia Leon, of Newington, Oxfordshire, to Miss Sophie Parrell, only daughter of Mr T.H.E. and the Hon Mrs Parrell, of Beverley, East Yorkshire. Canon Herbert Veal officiated.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her father, was attended by William Hilliard, Robert Tyrwhitt, Letitia Tyrwhitt, Polly Kneble and Caitlin Couper. Mr Brian White was best man.

A reception was held at the Cavalry and Guards Club, Piccadilly, and the honeymoon will be spent abroad.

Mr A.C. Kinnear and Miss S.J. Dellar
The marriage took place on Saturday, October 7, of Mr Andrew Kinnear and Miss Jay Jay Duke.

Mr J.A.R. Macdonald and Miss M.L. Connolly
The marriage took place on Saturday at St. Etheldreda's, Guildborough, Northamptonshire, of Mr James Macdonald, younger son of the late Sir Somerset Macdonald of Sleat, and of Mrs Lady Macdonald of Sleat, of Rodston, Yorkshire, to Miss Mary Lucinda Connolly, daughter of Lieutenant Colonel and Mrs L.C. Connolly, of Guildborough, Canon W.C. Gibbs and Canon R.W. Miles officiated.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her father, was attended by Nicholas Lyndon Colwell and Ben Evans. Sir Ian Macdonald of Sleat, was best man.

A reception was held at the home of the bride and the honeymoon will be spent abroad.

Mr T.W.M. Smart and Miss K.J. Lloyd
The marriage took place on Saturday, September 30, at the Church of the Holy Trinity, of Mr Timothy Smart, son of Mr and Mrs Ian Smart, of Wootton, Woodstock, to Miss Kirstie Lloyd, daughter of Mr and Mrs Barrie Lloyd, of Guildford, Surrey. The Rev Canon Robinson, Master of the Temple, officiated.

The bride was given in marriage by her father and was attended by Miss Meg Harris and Miss Jane Farrington. Mr Domenico Carrara was best man.

A reception was held at Middle Temple Hall and the honeymoon is being spent abroad.

Today's royal engagements

The Duchess of Gloucester, as Patron of the Enham Trust, will attend a luncheon at Enham Place, Enham Alamein, Andover, at 12.25 to mark the 50th anniversary of the Battle of El Alamein.

The Duchess of Kent, as Patron of UNICEF, will attend an Yves St Laurent haute couture fashion show at the Savoy Hotel at 7.30.

Appointments in the Forces

The Army
Lieutenant Colonel J.M. Heron RE - to be CO 73 Engr Regt, 23.10.95; J.P.R. Hinton PA - to be RMK Kuwait, 24.10.95; C.H. Jackson RLC - to be BAD Leighton, 23.10.95; G.D. Lilley RLC - to MOD 23.10.95; K.G. Medley RLC - to DBDHC, 23.10.95; A.K.M. Miller AASH - to CATT, 23.10.95; E.J. Tomlinson REME - to RA Ranges Herkides, 23.10.95.

RETIREMENTS
Colonel A.G. Platt Late REME, 24.10.95.

Royal Air Force
Group Captain J.A. Ball - HQ 1 GP, 23.10.95; M.H. Shields - D of R&S (RAF), 23.10.95; G.A. Miller - RAF Lossiemouth, 23.10.95; C.R. Cooper - HQ NATO, 23.10.95.

Latest wills

Mrs Elsie Mary Bell, of Sunderland, Tyne and Wear, £539,413.
Katherine Nicola Cole, of Cambridge, £570,511.

Mr Alfred Harvey Foster, of Slough, Berkshire, £1,089,841.
Mrs Florence Kirkpatrick, of Fordingbridge, Hampshire, £739,276.

Mrs Mary Seward, of Boscawen, Bideford, Devon, £596,007.
Mrs Ida Rachel Stansfeld, of London NW11, £866,703.

Mr John Gordon Woodward, of Sutton St Nicholas, Herefordshire, £558,499.

Election

Lothians Company
The following have been elected officers of the Lothians Company for the coming year.

Master, Mr John E.S. Northorn; Upper Warden, Mr John A. Boshoff; Under Warden, Mr Graham B. Forbes.

Reception

2 Temple Gardens
The Chambers of Patrick Phillips, QC, held a Reception at Christie's, King Street, St James's, on October 18, 1995, to celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the establishment of these Chambers at 2 Temple Gardens.

Seminar

Council of Religious and Interfaith Organisations
Sir Sigmund Sternberg spoke yesterday in New York, on The Value of Dialogue, at a seminar held by the Council of Religious and Interfaith Organisations, as part of the United Nations 50th Anniversary celebrations.

Memorial

David Richard Thompson
A Memorial Service for David Richard Thompson, CB, QC, will be held in Lincoln's Inn Chapel on Wednesday, November 22, 1995, at 5.00pm.

Nature notes

IN THE warm sunshine, house sparrows and starlings have been taking nesting material into holes, but not many of them will get as far as laying an autumn clutch of eggs. Redwings are now arriving from Iceland and Scandinavia and feeding avidly on the rich crop of hawthorn berries. These small thrushes with white eyestripes are very shy at present and flutter wildly out of the bushes when people approach, but they can be recognised by their long, thin calls. Among the summer visitors, a few yellow wagtails and common terns are still passing through.

The bright blue flowers of field speedwell are still blossoming under hedges, and red campion and red clover are also lingering on. Large mushrooms are springing up where the stubble has not been



Redwing: very shy

ploughed in. Crab-apple trees are laden with yellow fruit, and where the sloes are thickly clustered on the blackthorns, they look like a patch of blue sky showing through the branches. Late insects include red admiral butterflies, which gather round the ivy flowers, and common darter dragonflies, which have narrow red bodies and like to rest on sunny paths.

Birthdays today

Sir Anthony Bamford, chairman, J.C. Bamford Group, 50; Professor G.W.W. Barker, archaeologist, 40; Mr Arthur Britten, journalist, 71; Mr Johnny Carson, American broadcaster, 70; Major Edwin Coven, former Chief Commoner, 74; Mr John Craven, chairman, Morgan Grenfell Group, 55.

Lord Hunt of Tynworth, 76; Mr Roger Jones, managing director, Woolworths, 58; Sir Archie Lamb, diplomat, 74; Professor Sir Frank Lawson, Professor of Operative Dental Surgery, Liverpool University, 80; Mr Ivan McDonald, former associate editor, The Times, 87; Pete, footballer, 55; Lord Remant, 65; Mr G.J. Robinson, chief executive, Granada Group, 47; Mrs Anita Roddick, founder, Body Shop International, 53; the Earl of Shannon, 71; Baroness Trumpington, 73; Baroness Young, 69.

Appointments

Mr Adrian White and Mr Richard Eyre to be Governors of the BBC.

Anniversaries

BIRTHS: Jean-Philippe Rameau, organist and composer, Dijon, 1683; Francis Jeffrey, Lord Jeffrey, judge and literary critic, Edinburgh, 1773; Adalbert Sülzer, novelist, Oberhausen, 1840; Pierre Larousse, lexicographer, Yonne, France, 1837; Robert Bridges, poet Laureate 1913-30, Walmer, Kent, 1844; Louis Riel, Canadian insurgent, St Boniface, Manitoba, 1844; Douglas Jardine, Surrey and England crickers captain, Bombay, 1900; Diana Dora, actress, Swindon, Wiltshire, 1931.

DEATHS: Thomas Pridie, Parliamentary soldier, Worcester House, Surrey, 1698; Edward Stanley, 14th Earl of Derby, Prime Minister 1852, 1859-59 and 1866-68, London, 1894; W.G. Grace, cricketer, London, 1915; John Boyd Dunlop, inventor of the pneumatic tyre, Dublin, 1921; Zane Grey, writer of Western novels, Altadena, California, 1939; Al Jolson, singer, San Francisco, 1950; Merle Oberon, actress, Los Angeles, 1979.

The first Parliament of Great Britain met, 1707.

Battle of El Alamein, 1942.

Dinners

New Britain
Minister of the Fleet, Sir William Staveley proposed the toast to the Immortal Memory at a Trafalgar Day dinner given by New Britain on Saturday at the Commissioner's House, Chatham Historic Dockyard. Mr Dennis Delderfield, National Chairman of New Britain, presided. Mr Roy Fidler, Editor of This England, also spoke. The Mayor and Mayoress of Rochester were present.

Foundation for Science and Technology
Lord Birtworth, CBE, DL, Chairman of the Foundation for Science and Technology, presided at a dinner discussion held jointly with the Paris Chamber of Commerce and Industry at the Palace of the President of the French

Senegal in Paris on Tuesday, October 17, 1995.
This was preceded by a reception given by the Ambassador at the British Embassy in Paris. M. Joël de Rosnay and Sir Richard Sykes spoke on "Compared Innovation and Competitiveness in Britain and France". Others present included: M. Victor Chaptot, M. Hubert Fabiani, Dr Richard J. Haas and M. Claude Jablon.

Old Oakhamians
Mr Graham Smallbone, Headmaster of Oakham School, was the guest of honour at the annual dinner of the Old Oakhamians Club, held on Saturday at the school.

The Rev Terence Treason, president, was in the chair.

BMDS: 0171 782 7272
PRIVATE: 0171 481 4000

PERSONAL COLUMN

TRADE: 0171 481 1982
FAX: 0171 481 9313

DEATHS

DAIRY - Personality at home, on Friday, 20th October, 1995, at 80 years, of Mrs. Daisy, much loved wife of Frank, private cremation. Service at 11.00am on Sunday 22nd October at St. Michael's Church, 250a, Dorchester. Donations if desired to be sent to St. Michael's Church, 250a, Dorchester. Flowers by family only.

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OBITUARIES

SIR KINGSLEY AMIS

Sir Kingsley Amis, CBE, novelist and poet, died yesterday aged 73. He was born in south London on April 16, 1922.

Kingsley Amis was an essentially private man who spent a great deal of his life in the public eye and managed rather to enjoy it. His first published novel, *Lucky Jim*, won him immediate acclaim in 1954, as well as the Somerset Maugham Award. It established him as a master of invective and a man well able to raise a guffaw from his readers, especially the male ones. For the next 40 years Amis produced a regular flow of books which established him as the leading British comic novelist of his generation. The time varied considerably but Amis picked his targets carefully and his aim was deadly accurate. He wrote about what he knew well and made sure that he did not too much like what he saw about him.

In March 1991 the limelight became especially strong with the publication of his *Memoirs*. As he moved through his sixties Amis deliberately put on a cantankerous face to the world: the old buff became the old curmudgeon. He had developed a reputation, only partly deserved, of being rude to those who disturbed his wellbeing, such as incompetent waiters, and to those whose opinions he decided, notably of the political left. The image he cultivated was much enhanced by his *Memoirs*, which blew up a fine old literary dust.

No book he wrote, not even *Lucky Jim*, attracted so much publicity on its first appearance. In a state of profiles Amis, usually photographed in his shirt sleeves with his baggy trousers supported by massive braces drawn up somewhere around his sternum, managed for the quality press many a glare that would have done credit to Evelyn Waugh himself. Word quickly got around that Kingsley Amis had done another demolition job, this time of well-known names — not only among the dead but also among — crime of crimes — the living. One leading newspaper called the book morally repugnant and thoroughly vindictive.

Only when that dust had settled did *Memoirs* become recognised at least by some for what it was, an assembly of highly collectable anecdotes which would have entertained any dinner party (not comprised of maiden aunts) or literary saloon bar. The storyteller was back at work, but revealing very little about himself apart from his dislike, relative to others, of standing the round of drinks came very high on the list. Indeed, in the preface, there was a warning sentence: "I have already written an account of myself in 20 or more volumes, most of them called novels." The limelight was there, but amidst the profiles in print and on television the private person remained hidden.

Amis could well have argued that there was not now a great deal to hide. By the

time he entered his seventies his life had become rigidly set. During the week he moved between his home in Primrose Hill, which was the self-contained ground floor of a house shared with his first wife Hilary (now Lady Kilmarnock), and the Garrick Club. At weekends, when the Garrick was closed, a pub down the road called the Queens substituted. Amis wrote in the morning, arrived at the Garrick about 12.30, never sat down to lunch there before 2pm, had a few drinks afterwards, wrote again a little in the late afternoon and very rarely went out in the evening.

His hatred of travel, if anything, magnified. He only left London in August to holiday with friends in Swansea when the Garrick was closed. Kingsley Amis, who had regularly played at being an old man, had at last become one. Trouble with his legs and feet prevented him from walking more than a few yards; the bouts of melancholia, which had been with him off and on for much of his life, increased, often prompted by the death of another old friend. That usually meant the loss of one more drinking companion.

A little of the limelight returned when it emerged that he had agreed for a biography to be written despite the publication of *Memoirs* a couple of years back. The author was Eric Jacobs, a journalist and fellow member of the Garrick. Amis was probably encouraged by the fact that the "research" would involve a number of convivial lunches both at the Garrick and the Queens. Despite his infirmities and persistent hypochondria, Amis was still able to take in a good quantity of wine and whisky without apparent ill-effects. Jacobs more than once complained that he had difficulty in keeping up with his quarry — in alcohol.

Kingsley Amis came out earlier this year but already his subject's reputation was in decline, especially among the younger, liberal-leaning literary critics. Their venom was fiercely directed against *The Biographer's Moustache* (1995) which Amis, ever ready to turn recent experiences to good use, published shortly after the Jacobs study. The story of a literary hack commissioned to write the biography of a Grand Old Man of Letters, who spends more time hobnobbing with dukes than adding to his oeuvre, attracted some splenetic reviews. By Amis standards the book was slight, but he was sharply wounded by the mauling he received. The bounce and self-confidence began to evaporate.

Kingsley Amis was born in Norwood, south London, into a family that had in his own words come down a bit in the world and "slipped a rung". He began his education at Norbury College, which "only had two famous alumni. Me and Derek Bentley." (Bentley was executed on a murder charge.) He went on to City of London, his father's old school, and won an exhibition to St John's College, Oxford, where he arrived "in impeccably



proletarian style" in 1941. Military service, in the Royal Corps of Signals, intervened.

At Oxford, after the interruption of his war service, he formed a number of crucial friendships. The first was with Hilary (Hilly) Bardwell, who was an art student and then a model — head only, no stripping — at the Ruskin School of Art. A two-year affair ended in an Oxford marriage in 1948 when Hilly was already pregnant with Amis's first son, Philip. They remained together, despite peccadilloes on both sides, until the early 1960s and were divorced in 1965. Amis draws on Hilly as a principal character in two of his novels. The married period features in *Take a Girl Like You* and the reunion under the same Primrose Hill roof is thinly disguised in *The Folks that Live on the Hill*.

The second great Oxford friendship was with the poet and librarian Philip Larkin, one of the few people apart from Hilly for whom Amis had almost unreserved admiration — "the best poet I know apart from Housman". Larkin and Amis were united in a love of jazz and their glee in debunking other writers, especially those on the Oxford syllabus. Larkin went through early drafts of *Lucky Jim*

suggesting alterations, he was the dedicatee of the finished product and a street where he lived for a time even provided the surname of the hero, Jim Dixon. The friendship of the two men was to remain until Larkin's death and Dixon was to become recognised, quite quickly, as one of the great comic creations of 20th-century fiction.

The novel was published in 1954, by which time Amis had been a lecturer in English literature at University College, Swansea, for five years. He ended up there, he claimed, because Swansea made its academic appointments rather late and he was lucky to get the job. But he stayed until 1961, when he transferred none too happily to Peterhouse, Cambridge. Several of his Swansea colleagues reckoned to have identified themselves, probably quite correctly, in Jim Dixon's march through the postpositives and incompetencies of provincial academic life. But Amis survived the spleen of those affected by his lampoons, just as Jim Dixon managed to survive being classified (incorrectly) as one of the angry young men who were fast becoming fashionable. Amis rather liked South Wales, returning to it often, and found that some of those who lived there provided excellent raw material. It was to be the setting of one of his funniest

— and sourest — novels, *The Old Devils*, which won the Booker Prize in 1986. Amis treated the award-giving dinner with appropriate dyspepsia. The success of *Lucky Jim* and a legacy left to Hilly raised the Amis lifestyle above the subsistence level given to a university lecturer.

Amis novels in the familiar yellow and black jackets of his first publisher, Gollancz, followed every two or three years: *That Uncertain Feeling* (1955), *I Like It Here* (1958) and, probably funniest of all, *Take a Girl Like You* (1960). They were written with fine comic assurance and in some cases were popular enough to be filmed, though not with any great success. The year 1963 brought *One Fat Englishman*, which drew on his experiences as visiting lecturer at Princeton University, an episode also described acidly in *Memoirs*. He was to return to America ten years later, in 1967, this time to Vanderbilt in Nashville, Tennessee. On occasion he could be quite warm about America, saying that he would have gone there more often had he been able to overcome his fear of flying. But that he never achieved and as he got older all forms of travel, including simple train journeys, filled him with apprehension — or so he said.

By the early 1960s Kingsley Amis was fully involved with the novelist Elizabeth Jane Howard. They met for the first time at the Cheltenham Literary Festival in the autumn of 1962. Amis made a pass at his blonde and sophisticated fellow panellist and was straightaway accepted. He moved out of the family home and in with the twice divorced Elizabeth Jane, whom he married in 1965. It was in part a literary association: he helped her with her novels and she helped him with his. But it also soon became a stormy one. Neither seemed willing to bridge the gaps between them of taste and class: she liked polished dinner parties and he preferred conversations in pubs. There were regular arguments about Amis's drinking habits. Amis left a record of the relationship in one of his most misanthropic novels, *Jake's Thing*, and they separated for good in the early 1980s.

In the mid-1960s Amis moved from Gollancz to Cape (he was to end up with HarperCollins) and branched out from his regular terrain of comic novels with their strong underlying vein of satire. *Colonel Sun: A James Bond Adventure* (1968), which took over where Ian Fleming left off, was a thriller he published under the pseudonym of Robert Markham. Previously, and also pseudonymously, he wrote *The Book of Bond* by "Lt-Col. Tanner". There was an indifferent but lucky collaboration with his friend Robert Conquest, *The Egyptologists*. But Amis, the professional critic who analysed how others wrote, was adept at mastering established genres. *The Green Man* (1969) was an accomplished ghost story in M. R. James style, under-appreciated when it first came out

but winning some belated admiration when it became a television serial in 1990. *The Riverside Murders* (1973) showed that he could write a detective story along with the best of them. His fascination with science fiction had already been displayed in *New Maps of Hell* (1961).

There was Amis the poet, a man who felt that his collections of verse were underestimated, and Amis the editor of poetry with *The New Oxford Book of Light Verse*. There was Amis the literary critic and Amis the expert on Kipling, Kipling and his World. Most especially, there was Amis on drink. Alcohol, usually consumed in large quantities, played an important part in most of his novels and he wrote a number of books on the subject. He was a wine bibber — and a spirit bibber for that matter — who knew what he liked and was viuperative about what displeased him. His restaurant column for *Harpers & Queen* was eccentric, diverting and long-lasting.

Beneath the clubbable bonhomie, regularly on display at the Garrick (or Irving, as it became in *The Folks that Live on the Hill*, 1990), and the talent to amuse with funny faces and well turned anecdotes, there was a powerful vein of melancholy. *Ending Up* (1974) is one of his shortest novels and one of his bleakest, a study of the viciousness the elderly show to one another. Thames Television's attempt to put it on screen was much too soft. Amis had only just entered his fifties when he wrote it and possibly he thought it better in the future to put on the mask of the old curmudgeon. He was replaced by anger in *Jake's Thing* (1978), directed at psychiatrists, the monstrous regiment of women in general and Elizabeth Jane Howard in particular.

Amis acquired the reputation of being a misogynist and there was plenty of ammunition for his critics in *Stanley and the Women* (1984) and *The Old Devils*. The latter was the masterpiece of his curmudgeon period. It was also highly successful as a television series. He was no favourite of feminist writers and was glibly dubbed "a man's humorist". For a time that probably pleased him: he knew quite a lot about women and delighted in the least pleasant aspects of his knowledge. But he also knew that the tide of taste was turning against him. *You Can't Do Both* (1994) has a hero, Robin Davies, whose life resembles quite closely that of the young Amis. It carries a new mood of half-regret for past misdeeds and, notably, it is dedicated to Hilly. But even such realisations had not prepared him for the vituperation which greeted *The Biographer's Moustache*. Like Maurice Allington in *The Green Man*, Amis felt he was being haunted by some very unpleasant spectres.

Kingsley Amis was appointed CBE in 1981 and knighted in 1990. He is survived by his three children from his first marriage (Philip, the novelist Martin and Sally) and by both his former wives.

LILLIAN FUCHS

Lillian Fuchs, viola player, died on October 5, aged 92. She was born in New York on November 18, 1902.

ALTHOUGH Lillian Fuchs was known to the concert-going public as an excellent viola player, she was in fact a musician with several strings, as it were, to her bow. She also played the violin, composed for the viola and taught and played in chamber groups.

Lillian Fuchs lived in New York, where a great many European musicians had settled after the war, and she inspired various friends to write new works for the viola. Bohuslav Martinu, for example, wrote specifically with her in mind *Madrigals* for violin and viola (1947) and *Sonata* for viola and piano (1956). For the solo viola, she herself wrote *Twelve Caprices* (1950), *Sonata pastorale* (1956), *Fantasy Etudes* (1961) and *Fifteen Characteristic Studies* (1965).

Despite being a small woman (she was barely 5 ft tall), Lillian Fuchs had no problems handling the large dimensions of the viola. She owned a fine 16th-century example of the instrument by Gasparo da Salo, from which she drew a rich, expressive tone. Critics praised her for her finely-controlled technique, although some felt there might have been more vigour in her playing.



The viola, though, was not her first love. Born into a creative family — her father had spells as a painter, pianist and plumber — Lillian Fuchs studied violin with Louis Svecenski and Franz Kneisel at the New York Institute of Musical Art (today the Juilliard School) to which she returned in later life as a teacher.

Her brothers, Joseph (who played the violin) and Harry

(the cello), were also professional musicians and Joseph, despite being in his 96th year, still reaches at the Juilliard School in New York. The three of them performed regularly together and it was for Joseph that Lillian Fuchs wrote piano accompaniments for the *Paganini Caprices* for solo violin.

However, it was in her performances of chamber music that Lillian Fuchs excelled. Although she made her

New York recital debut at the Aeolian Hall in 1926 as a violinist, she had been playing the viola professionally since the previous year when she joined the Perole String Quartet, a group she remained with until its demise 18 years later. For a while she kept violin and viola playing almost equally in tandem, but gradually the viola took precedence.

Thereafter Lillian Fuchs became a sought-after soloist. Pablo Casals invited her to his festival in the French-Catalan town of Prades in 1953; the American composer Quincy Porter wrote a duo for viola and harp (1957) and a duo for violin and viola (1962) for her; and, in turn, arranged for the viola both Mozart's *G* major Violin Concerto (K 216) — including cadenzas — (1947) and Bach's six Cello Suites. Her recording of the latter for Decca was hailed as a landmark in the treatment of that composer's music.

Later in life she turned her attention to teaching, and she numbered among her students many distinguished contemporary musicians, including Isaac Stern.

Lillian Fuchs married Ludwig Stein, a businessman and amateur musician, in 1932. He predeceased her three years ago, and she is survived by her twin daughters, also professional musicians, Barbara Mallow (cello) and Carol Amado (violin).

PROFESSOR ROGER PERRY

Professor Roger Perry, Professor of Environmental and Waste Management, Imperial College, London, died of a heart attack on October 1 aged 55. He was born on June 21, 1940.

OVER the past couple of decades, when attention to environmental issues has become not merely fashionable but voter-sensitive, Roger Perry was responsible for vital research into pollution levels both in Britain and abroad. These were to lead to innovative waste management techniques and the establishment of environmental engineering policies.

Perry was the adviser on major projects for the UN Development and Environment programme and to the World Health Organisation. He also chaired the inter-governmental commission between Macau, Hong Kong and Guangzhou (in China) to clean up the Pearl River basin.

In Britain he was appointed in 1988 as specialist adviser to the Commons Environment Committee inquiry into toxic waste management, a survey which, through exposing lax standards of regulation, led to the passage of the 1990 Environmental Act. Recognising an acute need for a thorough scientific engineering approach to waste management

issues, he coaxed the waste management industry into funding a Chair in Environmental Control and Waste Management at Imperial College, London.

Born in Solihull, Roger Perry was the son of a builder. He left school at 16 to begin work as a waste researcher for a local paint manufacturer. From there he moved to the Post Office engineering department where he gained further experience in waste analysis and treatment.

His abilities were recognised in 1961 when he was awarded a Civil Service bursary to study chemistry at Birmingham University, after which he spent two years as a teacher at King Edward's Grammar School, Aston. Here he contributed substantially to the then innovative Nuffield science teaching project which inspired him to return to Birmingham University in 1966 to study for a PhD. He completed it in just two years.

Moving to Imperial College, London, as a lecturer in public health engineering, Perry built up a hit-and-run small section of the civil engineering department into a thriving multi-disciplinary research group. He established facilities for research into environmental engineering and hydrology, and more particularly into wastewater treatment and air pollution.



In 1978 he was appointed Distinguished Professor by the American Association of Environmental Engineers and Professors. And in 1981 he was promoted to the Chair of Public Health and Water Technology at Imperial College. In 1991 he was elected to the newly founded Chair of Environmental Control and Waste Management. During this time his ability to communicate technical issues in an

imaginative and comprehensible way made him particularly valuable. In an advisory capacity to the Commons Environment Committee, and he was heavily involved in setting up the waste management industry's training board. He also advised the Transport Select Committee on air quality and vehicle emissions. His marriage was dissolved and he is survived by a son and a daughter.

Church news

Appointments:
The Rev Gerald Addington, Rector, Charsfield, W. Debsch, Monewden, Hoo, Dallinghoo and Letheringham, and Diocesan Warden of Readers (St Edmundsbury and Ipswich) to be also an Honorary Canon of the Cathedral Church of St James, Bury, St Edmundsbury same diocese.
The Rev Roy Arnold, Diocesan Communications Officer and Chaplain with Deaf People, diocese Sheffield; to be also an Honorary Canon of Sheffield Cathedral, same diocese.
The Rev Kim Bond, Student Counsellor, Stoke on Trent College; to be also Canon (NSM), Audley (Lichfield).
The Rev William Burke, Assistant Curate, St Michael's, Watford (St Albans); to be Rector, Castor, Sutton and Upton W. Marsholm (Peterborough).
The Rev Elizabeth Drax, Assistant Curate, Kimberworth, Rotherham; to be Assistant Curate, St

Mary's, Doncaster (Sheffield).
The Rev John Druce, Rector, East Bergholt; to be also Priest-in-charge, Bentley (grouped with Tattingsstone, Copdock and Washbrook), (St Edmundsbury and Ipswich).
The Rev Michael Dunk, Industrial Chaplain, diocese Birmingham; to be Priest-in-charge, St Hilda, Warley Woods, same diocese.
The Rev Peter Efferley, Team Rector, Seaton Hirst; to be Priest-in-charge, Felton and Longframlington W. Brinkburn (Newcastle).
The Rev Philip Harbord, Chaplain to Heatherwood and Western Park Hospitals Trust (Guildford); to be Chaplain to Leicester General Hospital NHS Trust (Leicester).
The Rev Mark Hollington, Assistant Curate, Wednesbury St Paul; to be Assistant Curate, Cannock Team Ministry (Lichfield).
The Rev Canon Ronald Howe, Vicar, Brigstock W. Stinson; to be

also Rural Dean of Corby (Peterborough).
The Rev Michael Jarratt, Vicar, Rammoor, St John, Sheffield; to be also an Honorary Canon of Sheffield Cathedral (Sheffield).
The Rev Tony Jones, Rector, Brantham W. Stutton; to be also Priest-in-charge, Tattingsstone (grouped with Bentley, Copdock and Washbrook), (St Edmundsbury and Ipswich).
The Rev Andrew Law, Assistant Curate, Tupley (Hereford); now Chaplain to the City of London Freeman's School, Ashstead (Guildford).
The Rev Glynn Lloyd, Resident Minister, Childs Ercall and Stoke on Tern; to be also Resident Minister, Cheswardine, Hales, Hinstock and Sambrook, within the same benefice (Lichfield).
The Rev Ian McIntosh, Assistant Curate, St John the Baptist, Pinner (London); to be Chaplain to Leicester University and Team Vicar, Team Ministry of the Holy

Spirit, Leicester (Leicester).
The Rev Nigel Nicholson, Rector, Cranleigh; now also Rural Dean of Cranleigh (Guildford).
The Rev Andrew Patterson, Assistant Chaplain, Royal Victoria Infirmary, Newcastle; to be Vicar, Whitby, St Helen (Newcastle).
The Rev Alastair Ross, Vicar, Halifax; to be also Rural Dean of Halifax (Wakefield).
The Rev Robert Skipper, Assistant Curate, Crawley (Chichester); now Assistant Curate, Emmanuel, Stoughton (Guildford).
The Rev Geoffrey Smith, Rector, Haughton W. Derrington and Ramton; to be also Rural Dean of Stafford (Lichfield).
The Rev William Stileman, Assistant Curate, Great Chesham Team Ministry; to be Team Vicar in that Team Ministry (Oxford).
The Rev Dorothy Twiss, Team Minister, Pewsey Team Ministry (Salisbury); to be Chaplain H M Prison, Drake Hall (Lichfield).

BELGRADE ROYAL WEDDING
TRADITIONAL CUSTOMS
FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT
BELGRADE, OCTOBER 22

The Royal wedding was celebrated at noon today by the Patriarch Dimitrije. Prince Paul wore the uniform of a captain in the Guards, and Princess Olga a simple dress of white silk with silver embroidery. The Queen of Romania was present in a magnificent, richly embroidered dress, in the style of a Russian boyarina. After the ceremony the Royal relations and the Duke and Duchess of York watched the bride carry out the traditional Serbian wedding customs of stepping over a strip of cloth, symbolising the most of her husband's house, of scattering corn, and of kissing a boy baby.

The bride and groom leave this evening for their honeymoon in Rome and London. This afternoon the Duke and Duchess of York will receive the British colony at the British Legation.

The bridegroom, Prince Paul, is the son of Prince Arsene, the uncle of King Alexander, and the bride is the daughter of Prince Nicholas of Greece and the niece of the late King Constantine.

ON THIS DAY
OCTOBER 23, 1923

The bridegroom at this wedding was Prince Paul who, after the assassination of King Alexander of Yugoslavia, became Regent. His bride was a sister of Princess Marina, Duchess of Kent.

MUSIC IN PARIS
NEW STRAVINSKY OCTET
FROM A CORRESPONDENT

The octet for wind instruments, Stravinsky's latest composition, was given its first performance at the second Koussevitzky concert at the Opera on Thursday, under the composer's own direction. The work, which is scored for flute, clarinet, two bassoons, two trumpets, and two trombones, is divided into three parts: *Sinfonia*, *Theme and Variations*, and *Finale*. The variations are described as

"monometric" and conclude with a *fugato*. The music is interesting, especially from a "formal" point of view, and is an excellent example of that tendency towards "neo-classicism" which was already so apparent in "Mavra" and which is characteristic not only of Stravinsky's latest work but of that of the "Six" as well.

The octet must be judged as a piece of "absolute" music; in it will be found that abundance of richness of invention and rhythmic variety we have learned to expect from Stravinsky, and which proves that he has something, at least in common with J.S. Bach himself. The octet differs widely from the earlier Symphony for wind instruments (in memory of Claude Debussy) both in feeling and technique. In contrast to the sombre colours and discordant harmonies of the latter work, the octet is straightforward, lively music, markedly contrapuntal in character and containing scarcely any harmonic singularities. It was remarkably well played by eight members of the Koussevitzky Orchestra (which consists of musicians drawn from the principal Paris orchestras). Prokofiev's violin concerto (1913), which was also produced at this concert, cannot be compared with the composer's later works, such as "Chout" or the "Scythian Suite."

NEWS

Councils face school funding loss

School funding could be taken away from local councils and handed to Whitehall under a radical plan being considered by the Prime Minister.

Such a move would enable John Major to achieve his declared ambition of getting all 25,000 schools in the country to opt out of local authority control and become self-governing. It would also bring the greatest upheaval in the shape of local government since Balfour. **Pages 1, 2**

Clinton launches UN celebrations

President Clinton launched the fiftieth anniversary celebrations of the United Nations by calling for a global offensive against terrorism, drugs, organised crime and the black market in nuclear, chemical and biological materials. He also pledged continued US support. **Pages 1, 10, 11**

Kingsley Amis dies

Sir Kingsley Amis, the irascible grand old man of English letters, has died at the age of 73 in St Pancras Hospital, London, where he had been treated after suffering a stroke. **Pages 1, 3, 21**

Lottery criticism

Virginia Bottomley will demand more careful distribution of National Lottery money after criticism over the award of £40 million to more than 600 obscure voluntary groups. **Page 1**

Prison staff accused

One of the three dangerous men who escaped from Parkhurst jail accuses "backstabbing" staff in the Prison Service of incompetence and not caring about their work. **Page 1**

Pill ban backed

Government experts received backing for their health warning on some brands of the Pill with the announcement that a ban is being considered in Germany. **Page 1**

Goldsmith challenge

Sir James Goldsmith, the Euro-sceptic financier, is prepared to put at least £20 million into fighting the Government at the next election. **Page 2**

Ivanhoe TV drama

IVANHOE, Sir Walter Scott's novel, is to be turned into a six-part costume drama by the BBC. **Page 3**

Rao tours to eclipse forecasts of woe

India's superstitious Prime Minister, P. V. Narasimha Rao, has embarked on an extended foreign tour to avoid the influences of a total solar eclipse that will strike his house just after 8.30am tomorrow. His astrologers, whose advice he heeds to the letter, told him to leave the country before the eclipse and to remain abroad for a long time afterwards. **Page 13**

Girl feared stalker

A stable girl battered to death at the headquarters of National Hunt trainer Richard Foster in Devon had been living in fear of a stalker, police said. **Page 5**

Pay plan dropped

The Lord Chancellor is to drop proposals to limit payments for criminal legal aid after opposition from the legal profession and the Legal Aid Board. **Page 6**

Multiple births treble

The number of triplet births in Britain has trebled in less than a decade after remaining unchanged for the previous 50 years. The number of twins has also risen. **Page 8**

Army role for women

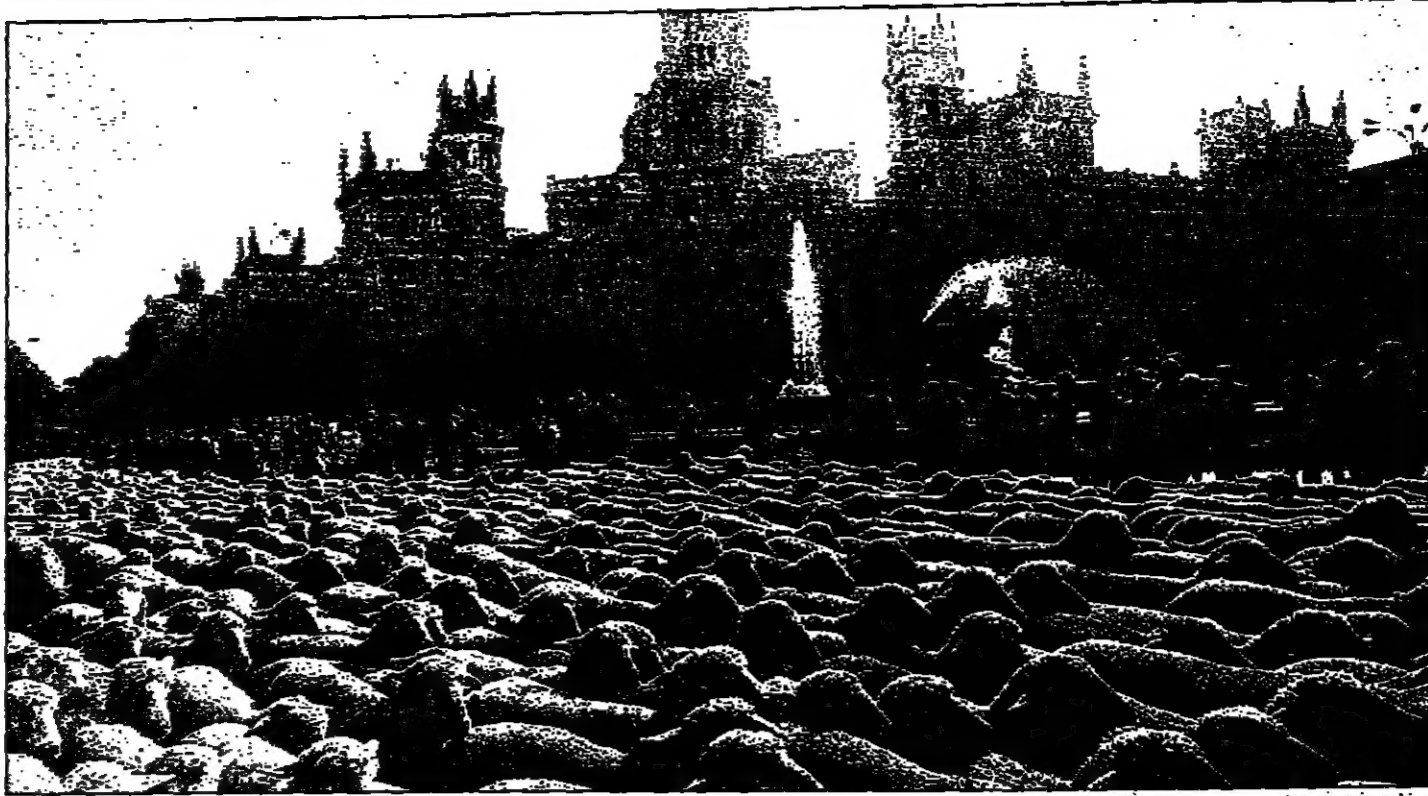
Women may be given their first chance to join the Army in a combat role, bringing equality of opportunity to all three Armed Services. **Page 9**

Western failure

Western pressure on China and Russia to stop providing Iran with nuclear technology and expertise has failed to stem Tehran's pursuit of nuclear weapons. **Page 12**

Okinawa anger

The woman's speech echoed through the loudspeakers, her voice taut with anger. "For 50 years the people of Okinawa have had to carry the burden of the US military." **Page 13**



Merino sheep walk past Cibeles Fountain in central Madrid yesterday, reviving a traditional right of livestock to use ancient paths

BUSINESS

Water bid: Ian Lang, President of the Board of Trade, is set to clear a takeover bid by France's Lyonnaise des Eaux for Northumbrian Water, triggering an assault on the water industry. **Page 44**

Channel 5: The Independent Television Commission has failed to reach agreement over the identity of the bidder who will operate Channel 5. **Page 44**

Bank talks: Executives of Lloyds Bank and TSB are to meet union representatives amid concern that thousands of jobs will be lost as a result of their merger. **Page 44**

Skills shortage: Almost half of British exporters have difficulty in finding suitable employees at a time of intensifying international competition. **Page 41**

FEATURES

A fine institution: Elizabeth Symons looks after more than 11,000 high-flying administrators, statisticians, government lawyers and tax collectors. She is as tough and tenacious a negotiator as Arthur Scargill. Alice Thomson interviews the head of the Civil Service trade union. **Page 16**

Hill home: Over the past ten years the population of the northern counties of Scotland has risen faster than any other area in Britain. Magnus Linklater on the resurgence of crofting. **Page 16**

MIND AND MATTER

Travelling by air: American baseball fans bemoaning their team's lack of success have a new excuse: jet lag. **Page 17**

French revival: Can the Paris Bastille ever become a great theatre? Its new boss, Hugues Gall, hopes so and people seem to be taking him seriously. **Page 15**

Overdressed: Kurt Weill's opera *Mahagonny* is given a new staging by Graham Vick, but the clutter of the designs threatens to overwhelm the singers. **Page 15**

Challenging: Phyllida Lloyd's revival of *Congreve's The Way of the World*, is dressed to the nines but still asks pertinent questions in its National Theatre staging. **Page 14**

Musical exposure: In a partnership between BT and the Association of British Orchestras, Richard Rodney Bennett's work is guaranteed performances in the next nine months. **Page 14**

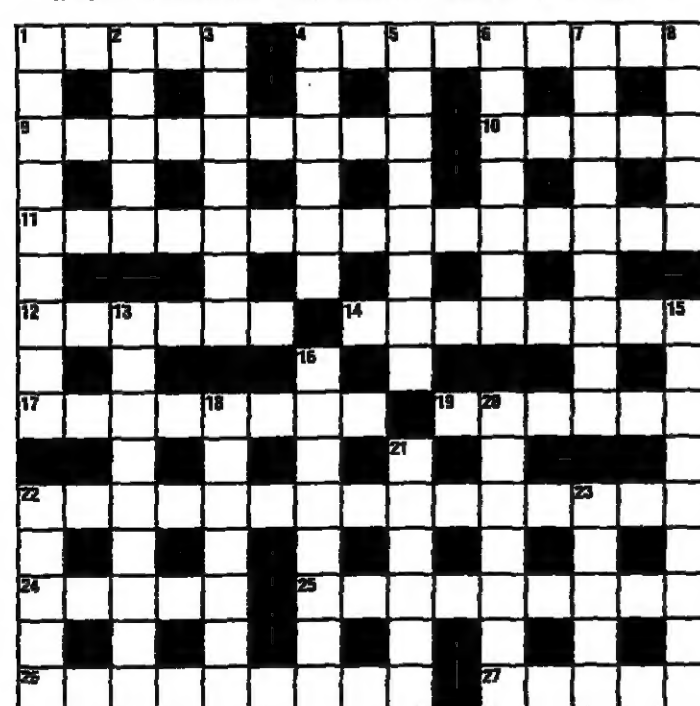
IN THE TIMES

NEW LOOK
Modern images for a modern Africa: contemporary art from Africa 95

BREAK DOWN
Mediation is not the answer for every divorcing couple: when will it not be fair?



THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 19,993



- ACROSS**
- Go off, missing entrance to pass (5).
 - Antelope I caught on both sides of an island (9).
 - Pay to follow bowls in county, once (9).
 - Disturbance in university class (5).
 - Support minor poet in doge (to 9).
 - Less sensible collection (6).
 - Reportedly display weaving machine, an old family possession (8).
 - Nobleman making mischievous notes about this country (8).
 - Moneylender bound to be in the city (6).
 - Dim new lot to shake up in new form (4,2,3,4).
 - Pigment companion found in mineral aggregate (5).
- DOWN**
- Old country - one invested in freely by Asians (9).
 - Order upset staff in charge (5).
 - Perfume's indispensable quality (7).
 - Stupidity of one officer seen in amateurish housework (6).
 - Cosmetic coming from East on the old ship (3-5).
 - Rent land from a northern city (7).
 - Acting in time to undermine underworld infamy (9).
 - Extract from epic I tediously quoted (5).
 - Not much food made in Silicon Valley? (9).
 - Hired soldier shows forbearance about near-disaster (9).
 - Singular vessels appearing in drawings (8).
 - See side assembled outside old church (7).
 - Imagine setting out up-river in a certain direction (7).
 - Extremely tame sort of jazz group (6).
 - A cooker knocked out of shape (5).
 - Nimble priest leaves in a weakened physical state (5).



The solution of Saturday's Prize Puzzle No 19,992 will appear next Saturday. The five winners will receive a bottle of Knockland, a superb Speyside Single Malt Scotch Whisky and a fine leather credit card wallet.

TIMES WEATHERCALL

For the latest region by region forecast, 24 hours a day, dial 0800 1 500 followed by the appropriate code.

Region	Forecast
Greater London	201
York/Surrey/Sussex	703
Dorset/Hampshire	704
Devon/Cornwall	705
Wiltshire/Somerset	706
Northamptonshire	707
Bedfordshire	708
Northants	709
West Midlands	710
Staffordshire	711
Shropshire	712
Cheshire	713
Merseyside	714
East of England	715
East Angles	716
East of London	717
West of London	718
West Midlands	719
West of Wales	720
West of Scotland	721
West of Ireland	722
West of France	723
West of Germany	724
West of Italy	725
West of Spain	726
West of Portugal	727
West of Greece	728
West of Turkey	729
West of Russia	730
West of China	731
West of India	732
West of Japan	733
West of Korea	734
West of North Korea	735
West of South Korea	736
West of Taiwan	737
West of Hong Kong	738
West of Macau	739
West of Singapore	740
West of Malaysia	741
West of Indonesia	742
West of Philippines	743
West of Vietnam	744
West of Laos	745
West of Cambodia	746
West of Thailand	747
West of Myanmar	748
West of Bangladesh	749
West of Pakistan	750
West of Afghanistan	751
West of Iran	752
West of Iraq	753
West of Kuwait	754
West of Saudi Arabia	755
West of Yemen	756
West of Oman	757
West of United Arab Emirates	758
West of Qatar	759
West of Bahrain	760
West of Brunei	761
West of Singapore	762
West of Malaysia	763
West of Indonesia	764
West of Philippines	765
West of Vietnam	766
West of Laos	767
West of Cambodia	768
West of Thailand	769
West of Myanmar	770
West of Bangladesh	771
West of Pakistan	772
West of Afghanistan	773
West of Iran	774
West of Iraq	775
West of Kuwait	776
West of Saudi Arabia	777
West of Yemen	778
West of Oman	779
West of United Arab Emirates	780
West of Qatar	781
West of Bahrain	782
West of Brunei	783
West of Singapore	784
West of Malaysia	785
West of Indonesia	786
West of Philippines	787
West of Vietnam	788
West of Laos	789
West of Cambodia	790
West of Thailand	791
West of Myanmar	792
West of Bangladesh	793
West of Pakistan	794
West of Afghanistan	795
West of Iran	796
West of Iraq	797
West of Kuwait	798
West of Saudi Arabia	799
West of Yemen	800

AA ROADWATCH

For the latest AA roadwatchers' information, 24 hours a day, dial 0300 430 100, or visit the website.

Region	Forecast
Greater London	201
York/Surrey/Sussex	703
Dorset/Hampshire	704
Devon/Cornwall	705
Wiltshire/Somerset	706
Northamptonshire	707
Bedfordshire	708
Northants	709
West Midlands	710
Staffordshire	711
Shropshire	712
Cheshire	713
Merseyside	714
East of England	715
East Angles	716
East of London	717
West of London	718
West Midlands	719
West of Wales	720
West of Scotland	721
West of Ireland	722
West of France	723
West of Germany	724
West of Italy	725
West of Spain	726
West of Portugal	727
West of Greece	728
West of Turkey	729
West of Russia	730
West of China	731
West of India	732
West of Japan	733
West of Korea	734
West of North Korea	735
West of South Korea	736
West of Taiwan	737
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West of Macau	739
West of Singapore	740
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West of Indonesia	742
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West of Afghanistan	751
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West of Indonesia	764
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West of Myanmar	770
West of Bangladesh	771
West of Pakistan	772
West of Afghanistan	773
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West of Iraq	775
West of Kuwait	776
West of Saudi Arabia	777
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West of Vietnam	788
West of Laos	789
West of Cambodia	790
West of Thailand	791
West of Myanmar	792
West of Bangladesh	793
West of Pakistan	794
West of Afghanistan	795
West of Iran	796
West of Iraq	797
West of Kuwait	798
West of Saudi Arabia	799
West of Yemen	800

HIGHEST & LOWEST

Yesterday's highest and lowest temperatures (°C) and rainfall (mm) for the 24 hours ending 22.00.

Region	Highest	Lowest	Rainfall
Greater London	12	5	0.1
York/Surrey/Sussex	10	3	0.2
Dorset/Hampshire	11	4	0.3
Devon/Cornwall	12	5	0.4
Wiltshire/Somerset	13	6	0.5
Northamptonshire	14	7	0.6
Bedfordshire	15	8	0.7
Northants	16	9	0.8
West Midlands	17	10	0.9
Staffordshire	18	11	1.0
Shropshire	19	12	1.1
Cheshire	20	13	1.2
Merseyside	21	14	1.3
East of England	22	15	1.4
East Angles	23	16	1.5
East of London	24	17	1.6
West of London	25	18	1.7
West Midlands	26	19	1.8
West of Wales	27	20	1.9
West of Scotland	28	21	2.0
West of Ireland	29	22	2.1
West of France	30	23	2.2
West of Germany	31	24	2.3
West of Italy	32	25	2.4
West of Spain	33	26	2.5
West of Portugal	34	27	2.6
West of Greece	35	28	2.7
West of Turkey	36	29	2.8
West of Russia	37	30	2.9
West of China	38	31	3.0
West of India	39	32	3.1
West of Japan	40	33	3.2
West of Korea	41	34	3.3
West of North Korea	42	35	3.4
West of South Korea	43	36	3.5
West of Taiwan	44	37	3.6
West of Hong Kong	45	38	3.7
West of Macau	46	39	3.8
West of Singapore	47	40	3.9
West of Malaysia	48	41	4.0
West of Indonesia	49	42	4.1
West of Philippines	50	43	4.2
West of Vietnam	51	44	4.3
West of Laos	52	45	4.4
West of Cambodia	53	46	4.5
West of Thailand	54	47	4.6
West of Myanmar	55	48	4.7
West of Bangladesh	56	49	4.8
West of Pakistan	57	50	4.9
West of Afghanistan	58	51	5.0
West of Iran	59	52	5.1
West of Iraq	60	53	5.2
West of Kuwait	61	54	5.3
West of Saudi Arabia	62	55	5.4
West of Yemen	63	56	5.5
West of Oman	64	57	5.6
West of United Arab Emirates	65	58	5.7
West of Qatar	66	59	5.8
West of Bahrain	67	60	5.9
West of Brunei	68	61	6.0
West of Singapore	69	62	6.1
West of Malaysia	70	63	6.2
West of Indonesia	71	64	6.3
West of Philippines	72	65	6.4
West of Vietnam	73	66	6.5
West of Laos	74	67	6.6
West of Cambodia	75		